



Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce and Civic Affairs

General Monthly Meeting

May 1, 2019 -7 pm

Sheet Harbour Lions Centre

Present: Dawn Howe-Power, Peter Stein, Wendy Cross, Susan Boutilier, Ken Boutilier, Sue Henry, Amanda Babin, Catherin Kinsman, Charles Vinick, Marilyn Munroe, Cathy Farris, Lisa Snow, Susan Burt, Warren Parsons, Myrene Keating-Owen, Penny Farris, Brenda McInnis, Lorraine Snyder, Wayne Malay, Carol Hemworth, Terry Hemsworth, Bobbie Mildenberger, Stephen Mildenberger, Brandon Hutt, Darrin Hutt, Duncan Hutt, Anthony Turner, Brent Boutilier, Greg Cross, Ed Empringham, Trevor Gammon, Alana Gammon, Sue Levy, Candace MacKean, Karen Bradley, Richard Bell, Janice Deveaux, Francis Harnish, Vance Thompson, Wendy MacKenzie, Tammy Hiltz, Vicki Rutledge, Antena Webb, Russell Webb, Galaxina Renaud, Lori Marino, Robert Tilden, Richard Bell, Gordon Hammond

Regrets: None received

President Peter Stein **welcomed all and called the meeting together at 7:05 pm**

ATV Club update by Kenneth Boutilier and Sue Levy added on May 8th Provincial Fisheries Officer will be in Pictou tickets are needed info on website to agenda. **Agenda with additions was approved** by Lorraine Snyder.

Minutes from April 3rd were approved by Marilyn Munroe and Myrene Keating-Owen

Presentation **“WITAP & Oceanarium-Sheet Harbour** was presented by Gordon Hammond- Presentation can be made available by contacting Gordon at – midpoint@ns.sympatioc.ca

Presentation **Whale Sanctuary Update** by Charles Vinick

- This is the first proposed permanent seaside sanctuary where captive cetaceans can live in an environment that maximum wellbeing and autonomy, and is as close as possible to their natural habitat.
- More than 50 advisors who are experts in their fields are working on this project
- Why Now- Public Opinion about keeping whales in marine parks is changing because life in tanks is stressful and kills them prematurely
- Increasing legislation banning captivity including S-203 currently before the Canadian House of Parliament
- They can not simply be set free
- Sanctuaries have been established for elephants, big cats, etc.
- Locally- Town meeting in Feb/2019
- Formed committees to access local interest and recommended sites for further consideration

- This week (April 29 -May 4) They are here to learn the level of interest of community support and see if recommended sites are warranted and visit sites

Potential Benefits to our area:

- Educational interpretive Centre
- Virtual Reality Displays
- Nature walks
- Internship Programs
- Remote Webcam
- Community Outreach
- Jobs
- Food services for animals and staff
- Housing for non-local staff
- Benefits local and regional-nature tourism
- Provincial, National, Global cetacean- conversation/leadership

Features of Whale Sanctuary:

- 40 hectares
- Average of 15 m deep
- Sanctuary residents 5-8 belugas
- Ecologically responsible
- String community partnership
- Opportunity to design plan with fisherpersons and communities

The Process:

- Introductory discussions
- Is there potential
- Work with local residents and communities to develop the plan
- If not workable- they will not proceed
- If they go forward together- WSP submits application for an option- scoping follows- including comprehensive environmental impact assessment
- Additional public consultation
- Upon successful scoping apply for a license

So... is this an appropriate home for a Whale Sanctuary? Leading the Way...and Leaving a Legacy

Marketing Committee Update- Peter reported that that the 3 days at Saltscapes went really well, Sheet Harbour was well represented. The new marketing materials SHEETHARB-OUR were a hit.

Treasurer's Report- Lorraine has requested that a 3rd party look at the books at year end.

Committee/Activities Reports:

Marina- Cathy received the drawings from Nick Glawson for the concept for the marina and she will forward to Andrew.

Business Committee- Marilyn reported that both courses are going well, Cloud Computing and Digital Imaging and that there might be a summer course- Word Press

Port Authority- Wayne reported that the committee would be having their quarterly meeting on Thursday May 2nd and he would give an update at the June meeting.

Community Centre Update- Greg reported that the committee are working with Dept of Lands and Forrest to secure the proposed property. The committee has conceptional building drawings and have sent them to the Feds and Province for their consideration.

Friends of Taylor Head- Warren reported that the gate may open the weekend of May 4th if all goes well. Please remember to take all garbage with you. Official opening will be on the 18th of May. Check their website for their yearly activities. Membership are \$20.00 per family and \$10 for individuals.

Heritage Society- Wendy reported that they had put in for two summer grants and have received one. Its for 8 weeks for an individual 15- 30 and they don't have to be returning to school. Jim picked up the wallpaper for the parlor at the museum and it will be wallpapered this summer. If you have family members that were in WWI or WWI, or Korean War please let Wendy know for the celebration at the Legion later this month.

High Speed Internet- Ed reported that there are 10 approved providers and several projects are starting. Usually have a 6-9 month start date. The providers need to put forward the projects. The result will have the province with 95% high speed Internet coverage.

MPA update- Peter reported that on May 2nd at the East Ship Harbour Legion a progress report was being presented. There will be an update in June.

Banquet- Peter reported that ticket sales are going well. TV is on display at Scotia Bank. We are very thankful for the tremendous support for the auction from the community in ticket sales, purchasing tables, sponsorships and donation of auction items.

Membership Committee- The committee has met and set their priorities- who are our members, who is paid & who hasn't, create a membership package to go out to new potential members, use the community directory to cross reference who we need to contact about becoming a member, look at who used to be members and are no longer involved. Peter will be putting together a package for this.

ATV Club- Kenneth Boutilier gave an update on what the club has been doing. They had a \$30,000 project to put a bridge over the Quoddy River which has been completed. They are now looking at the old Snowmobile/ATV club building on Hwy 224. They just wanted to let the Chamber know that they may have an interest in getting the building open again. Infor can be found on their website.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 by Lorraine Snyder

Respectfully submitted by,

Camber Secretary

Dawn L. Howe-Power

May 2, 2019