

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION
Regular Meeting #353
17th August, 2015 at 7pm
Pugwash Village Hall

Minute Number 353

PRESENT

Kathy Redmond (Chair), Roger Mundle, Charlie Gould and Christie Blackie

RECORDING SECRETARY

Lisa Betts

CALL TO ORDER

353.1 The Commission of the Village of Pugwash met at 7pm in the Clerk's office at the Pugwash Village Hall on 17th August, 2015. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Redmond.

REGRETS

353.2 None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION

353.3 It was moved by Commissioner Redmond that the agenda be adopted as amended and circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION

353.4 It was moved by Commissioner Blackie and seconded by Commissioner Mundle that the minutes of special meeting 351, held 15th June, 2015 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES

MOTION

353.5 It was moved by Commissioner Mundle and seconded by Commissioner Gould that the minutes of regular meeting 352, held 17th June, 2015 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

353.6 None.

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting #353

17th August, 2015 at 7pm

Pugwash Village Hall

PRESENTATION

353.7 None.

OLD BUSINESS

Pugwash and Area Master Plan – Infrastructure Action Team – Municipal Water

353.8 \$15 million has been promised in funding for this project from the Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments. Since the funding announcement, a federal election has been declared. The Clerk is to write to the candidates for this riding to ask if the federal part of this funding will be honoured if there is a change in government.

Pugwash and Area Master Plan – Multi-purpose Centre Action Team (MPC)

353.9 None

Pugwash and Area Master Plan – Tourism Action Team – Visitor Information Centre (VIC)

353.10 Interim statistical reports indicate greatly increased numbers. Statistics are also being kept as to the busiest times of the day/week for visitors to the VIC. The Clerk suggested that having a fluent French speaker on staff would be a great asset.

Pugwash and Area Master Plan - Collaboration and Communication Action Team

353.11 The most recent project, the promotion of 911 civic signs, has been embraced by the fire department who is selling signs and circulating the brochures one of the VIC staff developed for the project at the Farmers' Market. The Clerk has hand delivered the brochures to the Water Street businesses with the hope that 911 signs will become more present on this very public street.

Gathering of the Clans

353.12 The Coordinator presented her report to the Commission (see attached). Gate numbers (and corresponding wristbands numbers) were up 13% from 2014 which is surprising and pleasing; given July 1st fell on a Wednesday this year. Hiring a big name band (Rawlins Cross) and increased advertising are likely good reasons for this. Not all invoices have been received. It is hoped a final financial report will be ready to present at the next commission meeting. The increased expenses were largely due to the fact that we had eight pipe and drum bands this year, which are given a \$1,000 bonus, per organization, for attending. Given that not long ago there were no bands at the Gathering, this is deemed a good problem to have! The Coordinator suggested that, given the way funding is

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting #353

17th August, 2015 at 7pm

Pugwash Village Hall

obtained for the fireworks, that the Village of Pugwash should be directly responsible for the Canada Day fireworks. The commissioners agreed.

353.13 The Coordinator expressed how much it was appreciated to have access to Denis Brown's side by side vehicle to use through the day. Chair Redmond suggested that a local business could support the Gathering by providing vehicles that could be used as shuttles for those with mobility issues. This would require some coordination and communication system. The Coordinator will ask the Golf Club if two carts could be made available and Ground Search and Rescue if radios could be made available later in the day, when available.

353.14 The Commissioners asked if the rent from the midway could be cut back to then reduce the cost of the midway ride tickets as these are considered by many people to be very expensive. The coordinator will look at other kinds of rides/children's entertainment that may be available, such as bouncy castles or water slide.

Commission Election

MOTION

353.15 It was moved by Commissioner Blackie and seconded by Commissioner Mundle that an election for the one vacancy on the commission be held on September 19th. Nomination Day would be September 9th.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Eaton Stage

353.16 The Commissioners agreed that Eaton Stage, by all reports from dancers, musicians and carpenters, is in dire need of significant repair or replacement. There are funding programs that could be investigated to help with the cost. There are other projected projects that are interested in the replacement of the stage and these should be meeting again and reporting shortly.

MOTION

353.17 It was moved by Commissioner Blackie and seconded by Commissioner Gould that the Commission discuss the future of Eaton Stage at the next regular commission meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting #353

17th August, 2015 at 7pm

Pugwash Village Hall

Burgess/Graham property taxes

MOTION

353.18 It was moved by Commissioner Gould and seconded by Commissioner Mundle that the Village agrees that the property with PID# 25158601 is not within the Village boundaries and a letter should be sent to that effect to the Municipality of Cumberland County tax department.

MOTION CARRIED

Association of Nova Scotia Village (ANSV) Annual General Meeting (AGM)

353.19 The AGM will be at the Village of Bible Hill September 18th to September 20th.

The registration deadline is August 28th at \$40 per person. The Commissioners who can go will advise the Clerk of their availability as soon as possible.

Auditor's Invoice and management letter

353.20 The Clerk explained that the new auditors were chosen after a Request for Proposals process two years ago resulted in McIsaac Darragh (MD) being chosen over one other bid. They replaced Jorgenson Bickerton (J&B) who had been the Village's auditors for many, many years. J&B's audit invoice was generally in the range of \$4,000 to \$5,000. MD's bid was for \$5,400 with the caveat that the first year's invoice would be expected to be higher as they became familiar with the Village's records.

353.21 MD's initial invoice for the 2015 invoice was for \$25,052. This has been amended to \$16,150. The Commissioners expressed some surprise at the size of the invoice. They wondered why MD did not warn the Village that their billable hours were exceeding their original quote.

353.22 The Commissioners said that they would like the Clerk to talk with Municipal Adviser and perhaps even legal counsel to decide how to best handle the invoice.

Association of Municipal Administrators, Nova Scotia

353.23 The fall conference will be in Halifax this year. It is a budgeted amount for the Clerk to attend. The commissioners agreed the Clerk should go if the schedule looks to be useful. The early bird registration and hotel prices expire soon.

East Cumberland Lodge – 40th anniversary

353.24 Information item. The event will be held at the Lodge on September 18th.

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting #353

17th August, 2015 at 7pm

Pugwash Village Hall

Air conditioner – not included in the agenda

353.25 The meeting had been held in the Clerk's office because the ambient temperature and humidity were very high and there is no air conditioner in the board room. However, the A/C in the Clerk's office is very old and at this point in the meeting had yet to produce any cooled air.

MOTION

353.26 It was moved by Commissioner Gould and seconded by Commissioner Blackie that a new air conditioner should be bought for the Clerk's office.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayors for Peace - membership

MOTION

353.27 It was moved by Commissioner Mundle and seconded by Commissioner Gould that the commission send the annual membership fee of \$21 to Mayors for Peace..

MOTION CARRIED

Pugwash and District Volunteer Fire Department

353.28 Request for \$1,000. This is a budgeted amount. All donations, budgeted or not, require a request from that organization before the Village can make the donation.

MOTION

353.29 It was moved by Commissioner Blackie and seconded by Commissioner Mundle that the Village Commission donate \$1,000 to the Pugwash Fire Department.

MOTION CARRIED

Thank you cards

353.30 Curtis Shanks, Principal (now retired) of Cyrus Eaton Elementary School. Thanks for bursaries for end of last school year.

353.31 Jordan Reid/Pugwash District High School (PDHS). Thanks for scholarship.

353.32 Louise Cloutier (now retired) art teacher from PDHS. Thanks for retirement party and gifts.

Farmers' Market

353.33 Information on latest fund raiser.

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting #353

17th August, 2015 at 7pm

Pugwash Village Hall

TREASURER'S REPORT

MOTION

353.34 It was moved by Commissioner Blackie and seconded by Commissioner Mundle that the Treasurer's un-audited report be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS

353.35 The next Village Commission regular meeting will be on Monday, September 21st at 7pm

ADJOURNMENT

353.36 The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Lisa Betts

Clerk Treasurer

Chair _____

Clerk Treasurer _____