

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION
Regular Meeting #359
22nd February, 2016 at 7pm
Pugwash Village Hall

Minute Number 359

PRESENT

Roger Mundle (chair), Charlie Gould and Christie Blackie

RECORDING SECRETARY

Lisa Betts

CALL TO ORDER

359.1 The Commission of the Village of Pugwash met in the Board Room at the Pugwash Village Hall on 22nd February, 2016. Chair Mundle called the meeting to order.

REGRETS

359.2 Commissioner Batiot

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION

359.3 It was moved by Commissioner Mundle that the agenda be adopted as amended.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION

359.4 It was moved by Commissioner Mundle that the minutes of regular meeting 358, held 18th January, 2016 be approved as presented.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

359.5 None

PRESENTATION

Elementary School gardens – Jennifer Houghtaling

359.6 Ms Houghtaling distributed some information handouts on a project at the elementary school that would educate the students on where their food comes from and healthy living. The project got started last year with some vegetable grown in raised beds. This plan would expand on that with edible fruit trees and perennials and more vegetable and fruit beds. Teaching staff is interested in holding classes in the area. There is a number of local and area community groups who are partnering in this project in a variety of ways.

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Ms Houghtaling is asking the Village Commission for support: in principle, financially (\$2,500), with publicity within the newsletter or other marketing support (photocopying). Ms Houghtaling said there is paid maintenance planned for the summer months and explained more about how the plan would benefit the students of the school and the community at large.

The project costs are expected to be \$7,500. \$4,000 has been raised. Councillor Gillis said he will add funding assistance via the Municipality community development. Chair Mundle thanked Ms Houghtaling for her presentation and said that the financial assistance from the Village will be discussed during budget deliberations.

OLD BUSINESS

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

359.7 No report although the Commissioners expressed a regret that the water system will not include fire protection (hydrants). The cost of installation is believed to be very high.

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

359.8 No report

Pugwash and Area Master Plan – Tourism Action Team

359.9 The Clerk presented a plan to develop a selection of bulletins to give at the Visitor Information Centre that would have information on a variety of activities: nature walks, historic walks, local beaches *et cetera*.

Pugwash and Area Master Plan - Collaboration and Communication

359.10 No report.

ad hoc committee for a new health care facility

359.11 Commissioners Batiot and the Clerk had attended the most recent meeting, February 19th. The Clerk reported at 22 people attended an information session of Friday, February 19th at the Village Hall board room that included several people from the health authority who had presentations on such subjects as Community clusters and networks and continuing care. Towards the end of the session, the representatives all agreed that the need for a new facility in Pugwash was certain, but that they wanted to ask the public what the needs of the community are for a facility. Fundraising cannot be officially started until the cost of the facility is known and that cannot be known until what needs are to be met

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at the facility. There will be a public meeting at the high school on March 1st at 7pm.

Waterfront Development Committee

359.12 The Clerk reported that she had sent some basic information on Eaton Stage to be used to help put together a Request for Proposals for a project design.

Gathering of the Clans/Burns Night

359.13 The Robbie Burns Supper and auction went very well.

The Clerk was asked to get some information on Midways. Nationally, there are fewer carnival companies each year and all are booked up for July 1st. There are only two midway companies left in Nova Scotia. One goes to Westville and one comes to Pugwash on July 1st. The midway that comes to Pugwash comes almost more out of sentiment than as a money maker, just because they like coming to Pugwash. The limiting factor for the number of rides is space. Moving their trucks to another site (for example the Salt Mine wharf) would not make enough additional space to add another ride. The only way they could add more rides would be to level off more of the park. Wristbands are not feasible for a single day event like Pugwash. The Clerk suggested that, given the way the carnival industry is headed (with expanding costs and fewer available sites), the day of the travelling midway is probably coming to an end in the next few years. It is proposed that the Village of Pugwash subsidize the cost of advance midway tickets.

NEW BUSINESS

Red Oak tree

359.14 As part of the walking tour and demonstration about trees with Dr Duinker in May, a red oak will be planted in the park as a donation.

Volunteer Recognition

359.15 The second week in April is Volunteer Appreciation Week. The Village Commission decided last year to adopt the same timing for acknowledging a nominated volunteer in Pugwash. The Clerk asked the Commission if they had any preferences as to how that would go ahead. The Clerk will advertise with posters and social media for nominees.

Policy Updates

359.16 The Clerk reminded the Commission that policies and bylaws should be reviewed and updated periodically. The Clerk presented the Association of Municipal

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Administrators (AMA) model policy on *Council [read Commission] Meetings and Proceedings Policy* for the Commissioner to review. The Clerk suggested this would be a good policy to update as the current version is a combination of policy and bylaw. From the AMA model, the Clerk presented a draft *Handling Complaints* policy.

CORRESPONDENCE

Buffy White, Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR)

359.17 The Commission sent a letter complaining about the poor snow removal in the Village core to the Area Manager, which resulted in improved road conditions almost instantly!

Mike MacDonald, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

359.18 Upon request from the Pugwash Chamber of Commerce, the Village wrote to the DNR asking for help in discouraging roosting cormorants. These migratory birds are away for the winter right now. For the past two or three summers, some of them have regularly roosted on the power lines that run alongside the harbour bridge. Their excrement accumulates on the sidewalk below, making walking along this section very unpleasant for pedestrians. The Clerk heard back from DNR quite promptly to be informed that the issue has been sent on the Nova Scotia Power environmental department who may have a solution.

Gerald Hoganson

359.19 Mr Hoganson requests space in the Village Hall to use to give free assistance in income tax reporting. Mr Hoganson has been volunteering his time in this capacity for many years.

Northumberland Community Curling Club

359.20 Thank you for donation of lapel pins for invitational bonspiel.

Farmers Market

359.21 Ms Burgess was available to explain that the correspondence was in response to the request for further information on the proposal she presented at the last village commission meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

MOTION

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

MOTION CARRIED

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Budget

359.23 There will be a budget meeting Thursday, March 9th.

INFORMATION ITEMS

359.24 The next Village Commission regular meeting will be on Monday, March 21st at 7pm.

359.25 Commissioner Gould will represent the Village Commission at the Senior Boys basketball provincial tournament on March 3rd.

359.26 Sunset Winter Carnival will be held Friday, March 4th.

ADJOURNMENT

359.22 The meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm by Commissioner Gould.

Respectfully submitted

Lisa Betts

Clerk Treasurer

Chair _____

Clerk Treasurer _____