



Waterfront Baddeck Committee Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2024

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM (11:15 AM– 11:30AM for questions from public)
Virtual Zoom Meeting Only. No in-person session

ATTENDEES

Sean Baldwin
Roman Braun-Huettner
Steven Goldthwaite
Rhonda Kay
Terry Kelly
John Langley
Denise Mulley
Bill Marchant
Steve Ross

Regrets:

Jen MacDonald
Gary Crowder

AGENDA

Governance
Public Wharf
Boardwalk
Kidston Island
Other Business

AGENDA REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

GOVERNANCE

The meeting agenda was approved as circulated. The minutes of the board meeting of December 1, 2023 were approved as distributed and will be posted to the Waterfront Baddeck Committee website (waterfrontbaddeckcommittee.ca).

Chairman acknowledged the recent resignation of Dr. Henry Muggah and extended thanks on behalf of the committee for his past service.



PUBLIC WHARF

2024 Visiting Ship Program

It was noted that in 2023 Baddeck was visited by a number of ‘vessels of interest’ (tall ships, naval and CCG vessels) which when offered gratuitous berthing at the wharf attracted the attention of visitors as well as residents while providing opportunities for public engagement. Given the special arrangements for the use of the wharf by these and other vessels of this nature, there is a perceived need to have a policy in place relevant to berthing arrangements for vessels of this type. John Langley has undertaken to work on a draft document.

Halifax Boat Show; February 2-4, 2024

Steven reported that he will attend the Boat Show representing Baddeck in a booth next to Baddeck Marine, St Peters with Boating Nova Scotia, Adam Langley shall be introducing a ‘*Boating Nova Scotia Brand*’ for marketing of boating throughout Nova Scotia and the Maritime Provinces endorsed by various provincial marketing partners including Destination Cape Breton.

Fire Safety Plan

The village through Roman is investigating arrangements to come up with a fire safety plan for the Baddeck wharf in conjunction with the Baddeck Volunteer Fire Department and the regional fire inspector. The plan will extend to include the boardwalk. Denise Mulley and WFB shall take the lead on moving this forward for the public wharf plan on behalf of the village.

Commercial Tour Boat Operator Discussion

Gary, Steven and Denise have met with representatives of Winstar to discuss the 2024 season with another follow-up planned as well as contact with Paul Jamieson. It was decided against sending out an RFP for 2024 in lieu of which ‘expressions of interest’ will be invited online.

Lighting

A design for lighting for both wharf and boardwalk is needed to address safety issues as well as aesthetics. Lynk Electric is to provide a proposal for the wharf while planner Peter Bigelow will be asked to provide a proposal to assist with overall function and design. Steven has begun work on a Community Accessibility Grant.

2024 Budget Process

WFB needs to have this year’s budget in place as soon as possible in order to move ahead with its various projects. To that end WFB shall prepare and submit a proposed budget for the February meeting of the Village Commission which after vetting with the village shall be followed with a fixed budget for approval at the March meeting of the commission.



Cruise Ships

Denise reported that as of now there are 3 confirmed and two tentative visits by cruise ships to Baddeck, the first June 17, 2024 and concluding with calls in September and October. CCG has been informed by Denise of these dates and the need to have navigational aids in place to accommodate. There is a real need to engage in marketing of Baddeck as a small cruise ship destination. John Langley has agreed to take the lead on cruise for WFB and formulate a plan for marketing and visitation for cruise ships as well as other vessels of interest.

BOARDWALK

Community Economic Development Fund Application

Thanks were extended to Steven for his work in preparing this Community Economic Development application which will be submitted next week. This grant is very important as core funding for the boardwalk project and was strongly endorsed with letters of support from various agencies and politicians throughout Victoria County and mainland Nova Scotia.

December 6, 2023 Public Workshop Feedback

A well- attended public workshop was held at the Inverary Inn on December 6, 2024 with a great deal of input and suggestions for the boardwalk design and construction, all collected and categorized by Rhonda. This information will be passed along to Peter Bigelow for his consideration and to provide a proposal to assist in design and planning work for the boardwalk.

Construction Planning Update

Steve Ross briefly reviewed the scope of construction and the need to come up with a construction plan that includes the different participants including Harbourside Engineering, Fathom, Lynk and others. There was discussion regarding the sequence and planning for the design as well as potential contractors to assist including Peter Bigelow. Steven and Steve Ross will review proposed costs and next steps and review with Terry, then with Roman and the Village Commission on the procurement process so that the project can hopefully continue in the planning phase while we secure grants and funding commitments.

Living Shoreline Next Steps

Rhonda reported on behalf of Baddeck Improvement Association (BIA) that there had been no response to our RFP. Discussions around securing a proposal for a living shoreline subsequently ensued with three participants – DHI, Harbourside and CB WES who will partner in bringing forth a proposal to BIA.

Presentation to Victoria County Councilors

Steven reported that he will appear February 20th before County Council on behalf of WFB to provide an update on the boardwalk project and seek funding from County Council for the work. Roman will inquire with the Commissioners to potentially attend as well.



KIDSTON ISLAND

Lighthouse Survey and Next Steps

Steve Ross advised that Harbourside Engineering will now be asked to proceed with a second and more in- depth proposal for remediation of the Kidston Island Lighthouse which may then be used to secure contractor proposals to determine potential repair solutions and costs which would then be reviewed with the Village Commission and the public. Chairman reported that he had begun the process of seeking grant monies through the auspices of the provincial 'legacy fund', noting that 2025 will mark 150th years during which there has been a lighthouse on Kidston Island.

Power to Kidston Island

During a meeting this week with officials of Nova Scotia Power to discuss going underground with power along the boardwalk the subject of power to Kidston Island was raised. Presently power to the island runs from a power pole at the south end of the boardwalk beneath the harbor to the island. That cable is likely 75 years old and a candidate for replacement, estimated by NSP at a cost of potentially one million dollars. To maintain underwater power to the island will require a powerbox assembly in prime park/boardwalk space. Solar power was suggested as perhaps a more practical alternative, given the (current) power needs and consumption on the island. The consensus was that such an alternative should be looked into bearing in mind the future needs for power on the island. Lynk Electric has informally offered to provide advice on the subject. The Lions Club would be engaged in any discussions regarding power to confirm the proposed solution meets their needs.

OTHER BUSINESS

Climate Change Task Force

Steven informed the Committee that WFB has been asked by the Cape Breton Climate Change Task Force <https://climatechangetaskforce.ca/> to present at a public meeting it plans for Baddeck in March or April of this year. Bruce Hatcher and Rhonda have agreed to speak at the event.

2024 summer Intern Update

Rhonda reported that she had recently submitted applications for two grants with the Clean Foundation and Canada Summer Jobs Grant. It is hoped to secure two interns for the summer including Emily who worked with WFB last summer.

Dinghy Dock

Steve Ross talked around a screen image showing a possible dinghy dock located at the rear of the Freight Shed adjacent to the Lions Club dock site. WFB has village approval for the purchase of one 30' floating dock and will endeavor to acquire a second for use as a much- needed



dinghy dock. This is a prime location but needs to be vetted with BYC as the owner of the property.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am

Next meeting date is scheduled for February 23, 2024

John G. Langley
Secretary
Waterfront Baddeck