



Waterfront Baddeck Committee Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2023

2:00 PM- 3:30 PM (Public Q & A 3:10 PM - 3:30 PM)
Victoria County/Baddeck Courthouse – 495 Chebucto Street

ATTENDEES:

Sean Baldwin
Roman Braun-Huettner
Gary Crowder
Steven Goldthwaite
Rhonda Kay
Terry Kelly
John Langley
Jen Macdonald
Henry Muggah (Zoom)
Denise Mulley

Regrets:

Steve Ross, Bill Marchant

AGENDA REVIEW AND DISCUSSION:

Governance:

The minutes of the board meeting of September 29, 2023 were approved as distributed. Chairman noted that Terms of Reference had recently been received from the village commission and reviewed by the committee with a few amendments. Jen suggested that adoption of the terms of reference which will apply to all committees established by the village commission would be a 'roll through process'. Adherence will have to be given to conflict of interest rules mandated by the MGA with Steven to circulate a copy of same for review by committee members. Under the terms of reference committee members would serve for three year terms which will be adapted over time to coincide with the term for the village commission. Chairman reported that John Baldwin had recently tendered his resignation from the committee. With regard to reporting to the village commission, the committee will continue to provide the commission with meeting minutes, draft meeting agendas and a current 'project document' to ensure that both committee and commission are focused on matters at hand. All grant applications will be made by the committee through the commission. A joint meeting of



commission and Waterfront Baddeck is scheduled for February 2, 2024 to address project planning for 2024.

Public Wharf:

It was reported that today the floating docks had been taken from the water and stacked upon the wharf, with thanks extended to volunteers and village staff who helped with the task. The need for proper tools for dismantling floats was raised with WB to include an allowance for dedicated tools in its next budget. There was discussion about establishment of policies regarding waiver of fees for 'special vessels' which may provide access for the public as well as special events at the wharf. WB will draft a proposal for consideration of the VC. Denise noted the need to establish an online berthing form to streamline wharf bookings for the 2024 season. It was suggested that the cost may approximate 10K which might be ameliorated with grant monies. WB will look further into the matter. Chairman noted that customer data by way of feedback on surveys will be helpful in moving forward with wharf operations. Bev Bryson (Winstar Cruises) who was present as a member of the public raised a number of issues/requests regarding the Winstar operation including wharf lighting, signage, attendant shelter, and water pooling. Steven reported that an ad-hoc committee would be formed to look at RFP's for the 2024 season and also arrange to circulate berthing agreements for the 2024 season.

Boardwalk:

Rhonda gave an overview of the recent museum conference workshop which was very informative and provided interesting insights into many elements like lighting, seating, play areas and signage – what is the story of the area to be shared with visitors. In the months ahead WB will be focused on the boardwalk project through a subcommittee made up by Rhonda, Steven, Steve Ross and Bill Marchant. The first draw from the SCCF grant through the Baddeck Improvement Association has been received and Rhonda is now working on a draft RFP for the 'living shoreline' component of the project with timelines, including a suggested completion date of December 31, 2024 deemed at this time to be somewhat arbitrary due to the initial delay in receiving approval for the grant. A 'project review committee' made up of members of the public will be formalized with input into project design as well as offering advice on fundraising initiatives to support overall project costs. On the subject of First Nations Consultation, Jen noted that any such initiative would be led by the VC and that no relationship had been established to this point in time. Water and sewer issues pertaining to the project on Water street are currently being looked at by the VC, Roman in consultation with Steve Ross with the intent being to address and implement infrastructure repairs before roadwork associated with the project proceeds.

Kidston Island:

Steven advised that an engineering survey report compiled by Harbourside Consultants on the condition of the Kidston Island Lighthouse is expected soon. Based on the visual inspection last



month, of most concern is the condition of the foundation (there was two feet of water in the foundation during a recent extreme high water event) and may have to be entirely rebuilt in the next 12-24 months. Should that be the case, this would also afford the opportunity to address and effect any and all other necessary repairs to the structure. The Baddeck Lions Club concluded a successful season with its beach program, the first since pre-Covid. Steven advised that there may be a government surplus float available for purchase for approximately 8K to replace the float on loan to the club used this past summer. WB will draft a proposal for such a purchase, with potentially sources of funds and submit to VC. It was also discussed that grants should be explored as well as meeting with the Victoria County Counselors to assist with the cost of the floating dock. The importance of the swim program for the community and for Victoria County residents was emphasized, noting that this year approximately 4500 people were taken over on the ferry.

Other Business:

Various items discussed/reported including undertaking of WB to contribute to village newsletter with the next issue due January, 2024. Cycle Nova Scotia has offered to gift the village with two bicycle racks. WB is looking at possible opportunities for hiring a grant writing consultant tasked with searching out and writing grant applications. WB has completed a draft washroom MOU with Taigh Curaim Day Care Society which it will present to the VC.

UPON MOTION the meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm

Next meeting date is proposed for:

December 1, 2023, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

John G. Langley
Secretary
Waterfront Baddeck