

SOUTHERN SHORE JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, February 8, 2018
Ferryland Town Office, NL-10, Ferryland, NL

ATTENDEES:

- Mr. Harold Mallowney, Bay Bulls (Chair)
- Ms. Evelyn Tucker, Bay Bulls
- Ms. Joan Luby, Bay Bulls
- Mr. Sean Walsh, Ferryland
- Mr. Harry Bryan, Ferryland
- Ms. Rita Penwell, Trepassey
- Ms. Carol Anne Cose, Aquaforte
- Mr. William Winters, Renews-Cappahayden
- Ms. Rosemarie Sutton, Trepassey
- Mr. Rene Estrada, Witless Bay
- Ms. Lucy Carew, Witless Bay
- Ms. Maureen Murphy, Witless Bay
- Mr. Jerome Kenny, Fermuse
- Ms. Beverly O'Brien, Cape Broyle
- Ms. Hannah Power, Tors Cove
- Ms. Helen Power, Tors Cove
- Mr. Bradley Power, ERSB

DELEGATIONS:

- Mr. Alvin Simms, Memorial University – Department of Geography

PROCEEDINGS:

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Mallowney.

2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Estrada and seconded by Mr. Winters, that the Agenda of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of February 8, 2018, be adopted as tabled. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2018-007

3. **DELEGATION**

a. **Mr. Alvin Simms, Memorial University of Newfoundland:**

Mr. Power distributed a news release recently issued by ACOA regarding a new initiative between ACOA, MUN and Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador.

Mr. MULLOWNEY introduced Mr. Alvin Simms from the Department of Geography at MUN to elaborate on the new initiative.

Mr. Simms said the new partnership/initiative between ACOA, MUN and Municipalities NL is called “Big Data for Regional Development: A Case Study for Sustainable Communities.” He noted that the initiative plans to produce a regional economic profile of regions throughout the province. It will examine the value of connections between industries and assess the value of interactions between the population of the region’s municipalities and other regions for services. This initiative is the first step in developing strategic regional economic plans for development.

MUN will use a quantitative approach that ensures objective assessment of local economies to produce an economic profile. The profile will provide insight as well as articulate the nature of a region’s municipal economies and their potential.

The process will include a pre-determined package of analysis which can be applied to each region. It is hoped that municipalities will develop a collaborative, regional submission to gain access to the analysis. Municipalities will also be expected to pay a portion of the cost to complete the analysis.

The submission process for municipalities will be clearly communicated to towns in the near future and MNL staff will be available to work with them on their submissions. MNL will also convene an advisory committee to review municipal submissions and advise on approvals. Approvals will rest with MNL and MUN.

Interested municipalities, preferably regional approach (multiple towns), will require a statement of interest and a commitment of funding before they can move forward. More information on this process will be communicated out soon.

The individual projects will include start-up meetings, which will include municipal representatives, as well as MUN and MNL staff. These meetings will ensure clarity in the project’s purpose and the expectations of those involved. MNL staff will maintain regular contact throughout the project.

Once the report is generated for each region, a “ground-truthing” meeting will be held to ensure the municipalities understand the analysis and how they can use it in their planning as well as how it might be used to foster greater economic development collaboration.

Eventually data and analysis outcomes will be on a web application for quick access and updates. One day, in the very near future, you will visit a website and click on a community and you will be able to get up-to-date and timely information to inform council decisions on economic development.

Mr. Mallowney thanked Mr. Simms for attending and providing an overview of the initiative. He feels the Southern Shore communities should come together and be part of the project. The joint council will await an official note from MNL before going any further.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Tucker, seconded by Ms. O'Brien, that the Minutes of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of Thursday, January 11, 2018, be adopted with corrections. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2018-008

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

6. UPDATE ON ACTION ITEMS AND REVIEW OF RECORD OF DECISIONS:

- a. **Robert E. Howlett Drive Extension:** Mr. Mallowney read the draft letter prepared by Mr. Power requesting government move forward with the Robert E. Howlett Drive Extension.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Estrada, seconded by Mr. Winters, that the joint council send the prepared letter regarding the Robert E. Howlett Drive Extension as tabled. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2018-009

- b. **Stoney River Bridge:** Mr. Mallowney read the draft letter prepared by Mr. Power requesting government move forward with the replacement of Stoney River Bridge.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Penwell, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the joint council send the prepared letter regarding Stoney River Bridge as tabled. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2018-010

- c. **Canada Post:** Mr. Mallowney read the draft letter prepared by Mr. Power requesting Canada Post provide an explanation for their recent changes to operating hours in Tors Cove and to reverse the decision, as well as provide insight on future changes to mail service in the region as tabled.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Power, seconded by Ms. Luby, that the joint council send the prepared letter regarding Canada Post as tabled. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2018-011

7. EASTERN REGIONAL SERVICE BOARD (ERSB) UPDATE:

Mr. Mallowney provided the ERSB update. The ERSB met on Wednesday, January 24, in St. John's. The Board reviewed expenditures for the last quarter of 2017, whereas there was no Board meeting in December.

The Board approved a temporary admin position to support the ongoing work of the organization. New service areas and the implementation of fire services has necessitated this additional capacity.

The Board approved the purchase of a new software package called eScribe. This software will streamline the Board management process, and will also support joint councils with more timely agendas, minutes and action item follow-up. It will take about 2 months for the software to come online. Mr. Power will give the joint council a presentation once it is activated and he begins to utilize it for the Southern Shore Joint Council.

The Board was updated on activities surrounding the MNL Avalon/Eastern Regional Meeting. The Board also approved a \$1,000 sponsorship for the event. Ed Grant and Ken Kelly attended the conference on the ERSB's behalf. By all accounts the MNL regional meeting was a success. I am told many people from this region attended. I trust you all found it beneficial.

At the last Board meeting, the Chair of the Board (Mr. Grant) was extended for a period of time. Joint council members may recall that Mr. Mallowney outlined for the group at the last meeting that the province was planning on taking over the appointment of the Chairperson. Nothing has changed in this regard, so the Board extended Mr. Grant until it gets further direction from government.

Finally, the Board reviewed the terms of reference for its committees at the recent meeting. There are three committees of the ERSB – Finance & Audit, Strategy & Policy, and Governance.

The next meeting of the Eastern Regional Service Board will take place on Wednesday, February 28 at 7PM in St. John's. Joint council members are reminded that these meetings are open to the public.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Updated Roads Plan:** Mr. Mallowney noted that the Provincial Government recently released its updated roads plan, 2018 edition. A copy of the new release and plan were distributed to members for their information. There is some work noted for the Southern Shore, but no specific mention of Stoney River Bridge. The MHA will be asked to follow-up in this regard.

9. COMMUNITY REPORTS/ROUNDTABLE:

- a. **Bay Bulls Winter Carnival:** Mr. Mallowney noted that Bay Bulls will be holding the winter carnival in the coming week. More information is available on their town website.

- b. **Southern Shore Arena:** Ms. O'Brien noted that there's a lack of information about local restaurants and other services at the Southern Shore Arena. There are many hockey tournaments taking place and attendees have nothing to advise them on where they can buy food or find accommodations in the region. She suggested that they prepare a brochure or sign that outlines local businesses.
- c. **Florizell Anniversary:** Mr. Winter noted the Town of Renewals-Cappahayden would be hosting a reception and ecumenical service to commemorate the sinking of the Florizell. The ceremonies will be held on February 24 at 12 noon at the Town Hall.

10. NEXT MEETING - The next meeting of the Joint Council will take place in Ferryland on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Cose, seconded by Mr. Winter that the meeting adjourn. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2018-012

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.