

JOINT MAYORS ASSOCIATION OF TRINITY-BAY DE VERDE

MINUTES

**Wednesday, March 20, 2019
Hant's Harbour, NL**

ATTENDANCE:

14 attendees representing 7 communities

PROCEEDINGS:

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Mayor Clayton Branton, at 8:10 p.m. He welcomed everyone and thanked the Town of Hant's Harbour for hosting the meeting.

2. DELEGATION(S)

Staff Sgt. Greg Hicks (Commanding Officer) with the RCMP Detachment in Harbour Grace:

Staff Sgt. Greg Hicks, CO for the local RCMP Detachment, thanked the association for the opportunity to attend and provide an update.

Staff Sgt. Hicks began by distributing crisis support cards that include contact information for various services available to emergency service personnel and by-standers. He encourage everyone to inform their community of the supports available.

Staff Sgt. Hicks also distributed a "ATVs and Safety on The Ice" brochure. The brochure was developed through a partnership between the RCMP and the Avalon T'Railway Corporation. It includes advice on measuring ice; what to do if you break through ice; ice myths and cold realities; and, ice safety tips. Staff Sgt. Hicks said ATV safety should be a priority for all ATV owners and users. He said towns need to help the RCMP get safety messages out to residents.

Staff Sgt. Hicks noted the RCMP's work with young children in the area in relation to public education. The RCMP continues to deliver the DARE program in a number of schools. They also partner with other community groups to deliver youth programming.

A new officer fresh from the police academy has joined the detachment in Harbour Grace. The new member of the team has begun by coordinating recruitment presentations in local schools. They will be on full active duty in short order.

Mr. Burrage asked if wildlife officers can issue tickets like the RCMP. Staff Sgt. Hicks confirmed that they can.

Mr. Branton noted an incident in his community where an individual is discharging a gun within town boundaries. This usually occurs during hunting season, near the shoreline. There are no houses in the immediate area, but there's a walking trail close by. Residents have complained and are fearful to be in the area when the individual is hunting. Staff Sgt. Hicks said that towns can implement firearm by-laws if they have these type of issues. Mr. Power will bring back some examples of municipal firearm by-laws to the next meeting. Mr. Bren Power said Old Perlican has a by-law that prevents anyone from discharging a gun within their boundary. Staff Sgt. Hicks said to contact the police whenever in doubt about firearm usage in the meantime.

Some members of the association raised the issue of privacy in relation to emergency service providers radio broadcasts/pages. Individuals with scanners can hear the emergency calls and often times attend the scene causing issues for firefighters and ambulance operators. There have also been cases where members of the community have notified family members of incidents before emergency service personnel. Staff Sgt. Hicks said the cost to have radios encrypted is quite high. The RCMP had theirs encrypted a few years ago. Mr. Branton said the cost for their ambulance service and fire department radios to be encrypted was estimated at about \$8,000. The solution to the issue is for the Provincial Government to implement an encrypted interoperable radio system between all emergency service providers. That initiative could cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to implement.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting of Wednesday, February 20, 2019 were presented for review and approval.

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Power and seconded by Ms. Hiscock that the minutes of February 20, 2019 be adopted with the revisions. All in favour. Approved.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cell Phone EOI Update: Mr. Power noted that seven communities have submitted letters of support for the Cell Phone EOI application. He will reach out to those that have yet to submit a letter, but members present are encouraged to ask their town staff to complete this request as soon as possible.

Mr. Power reminded members present that Mr. Colin Corcoran will be attending the next meeting. He led the development of an EOI for a cell tower in St. Mary's. He will shed some additional light on the process for the group.

Single Parents Association of Newfoundland and Labrador: The Chair read a letter addressed to SPANL into the record. The letter requests that a representative from SPANL meet with the joint mayors and discuss transportation issues for single parents.

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Power and seconded by Ms. Hiscock that the letter to SPANL that was tabled be approved and that a meeting be setup with the group in the fall. All in favour. Approved.

Whiteway War Memorial: The Chair noted that Mr. Power has sent the letter from the Whiteway War Memorial Committee to all member communities. The letter requests a donation to the project from each community.

Mr. Branton noted that his community does not have a donation policy. Mr. Burrage noted that New Perlican denied the request. Ms. Hiscock said the committee has received a funding commitment from the Federal Government and are now looking at new lights and electrical for the memorial site.

Mr. Power will write a letter in support of the project, to be presented at a future meeting of the joint mayors.

Highway Traffic Camera: Mr. Power tabled a news release issued in December 2018 that referenced the plan to install a new highway traffic camera on the Heart's Content Barrens. A reply to the letter sent to Minister Crocker on this topic has not yet been received. Mr. Power said it looks as though the camera will be installed any day by the look of work now taking place on the barrens – a new pole has been installed with an electrical hook-up. Mr. Power will follow up. The camera is expected to be operation this spring.

HeritageNL: The Chair and Mr. Power met with the Executive Director of HeritageNL recently, Mr. Jerry Dick. Mr. Dick provided an overview of their work in the region and suggested that there will be an opportunity for all groups (heritage and joint mayors) to partner in the future. He suggested that the work the heritage groups are completing can support a strategic tourism plan for the area. He was more than happy to meet with the joint mayors after he tables a draft report with the heritage groups next month.

Mr. Dick also provided some literature for the joint mayors to take back to their individual community. In particular, an overview of the Municipal Heritage Designation Program was provided. This program supports communities developing heritage zones and protecting heritage properties. Anyone looking for more information can contact HeritageNL.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was presented by The Chair in the absence of the Treasurer.

Expenses for the last period totaled \$158.25. There was \$1,000.00 in revenue from membership fees.

The current bank balance is \$2,537.96.

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Power and seconded by Ms. Doucet that the financial report be adopted as tabled. All in favour. Approved.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Medical Insurance (Small Point-Adam's Cove): This item was deferred to the next meeting.

6.2. Eastern Health Community Advisory Committee: The Chair provided an overview of a request received from Eastern Health soliciting members for a community advisory committee. The committee has held its inaugural meeting, unfortunately no community representatives were in attendance. Mr. Power was asked to reach out to Eastern Health for more information and to report back at the next meeting. One of the impediments for community representative participation is that the meetings are held during the daytime.

7. COMMUNITY REPORTS/ROUNDTABLE

7.1. The Chair passed along best wishes to the **Mayor of New Perlican** who is dealing with a serious health issue.

7.2. Ms. Hiscock noted some issues on the main road in Heart's Content. Mayor Cumby said that the **Department of Transportation and Works** is aware of the issue.

7.3. Ms. Hiscock highlighted an issue with **illegal dumping and garbage** at Halfway Brook. Mr. Power noted that ServiceNL deals with illegal dumping. Communities are advised to report illegal dumping to Crime Stoppers.

7.4. Mr. Cumby noted that an old **Crime Stoppers sign** from his community has fallen down and is currently stored at the town depot. Mr. Power was instructed to contact Crime Stoppers to determine if the sign is of any value to them. If so, Mr. Power will send a note to Ms. Alice Cumby at the Heart's Content Town Office.

8. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held in Salmon Cove on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 8:00 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Seeing no further business the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at approximately 9:50 p.m.

Submitted by:
Kimberly Coombs
Secretary/Treasurer
4/17/2019