

SOUTHERN SHORE JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, December 13, 2018

Ferryland Town Office, NL-10, Ferryland, NL

ATTENDEES:

- Harold Mallowney, Bay Bulls (Chair)
- Sean Walsh, Ferryland (Vice Chair)
- Joan Luby, Bay Bulls
- Evelyn Tucker, Bay Bulls
- Eric Maloney, Bay Bulls
- Bill Winter, Renews
- Gerard Conway, Renews
- Harry Bryan, Ferryland
- Dan O'Brien, Ferryland
- Beverly O'Brien, Cape Broyle
- Jerome Croft, Aquaforte
- Debbie Windsor, Aquaforte
- Rosemarie Sutton, Trepassey
- Bradley Power, Eastern Regional Service Board

DELEGATION(S):

- Sgt. Frank Flynn, RCMP Ferryland

PROCEEDINGS:

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by the Chair.

2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Luby and seconded by Mr. Conway, that the Agenda of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of December 13, 2018, be adopted with the additions. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2018-033

3. **DELEGATION**

a. **Pharmacist Dan O'Brien, Baltimore Pharmacy:**

Mr. O'Brien thanked the Chair for the opportunity to address the joint council about an issue very important to all residents on the Southern Shore. He began by noting that Dr. Thomas McGarry in Trepassey would be retiring in March 2019 after serving the community for decades. Dr. McGarry served residents from St.

Mary's to Ferryland on the Irish Loop. He would typically see 40-60 patients a day. Similar to Dr. McGarry, other doctors in the area are getting up in age and will likely retire soon as well. This amounts to what Mr. O'Brien considers a crisis. The joint council agreed.

Mr. O'Brien noted there are six doctors in Bay Bulls, but Dr. McGarry is the only doctor in Trepassey. Dr. McGarry would see patients in Ferryland once a week. The clinic in Ferryland is underutilized.

Joint Council members said that a new doctor, doctors need to be recruited. Mr. O'Brien said recruitment is very difficult in this area. It requires the support of all stakeholders, hence his attendance at the Joint Council meeting.

Ms. Windsor said the incentives currently provided are not effective. More work needs to be done, and soon.

Mr. Power noted that other Joint Councils have been working with Eastern Health regarding community health and physician recruitment. He suggested a meeting should be explored with their officials. He will reach out and provide an update to the next meeting.

b. Sgt. Frank Flynn, RCMP Ferryland:

Sgt. Flynn provided an update on policing in the region. He said officers are focusing heavily on traffic issues in the area, as well as break-ins. The majority of speeding cars seem to be from Mobile to St. John's; however, it is an issue everywhere. He encouraged towns to spread the word that additional traffic-related resources are in the area. More tickets are being written as a result.

Sgt. Flynn asked that communities with digital speed signs send along the data they collect to the RCMP detachment. This will support the police in identifying areas of concern in individual communities.

Mr. Walsh asked about the staffing levels at the Ferryland Detachment. Sgt. Flynn said there are 8 members and 5 cars. In addition 8 traffic officers from Holyrood support the area as well.

Sgt. Flynn said the majority of calls the RCMP receive are from residents from Bay Bulls to South of Mobile. Most other communities are quiet.

Mr. Mallowney talked briefly about community policing. He said a couple of meetings have taken place on the topic in recent months. They are exploring a new neighbourhood watch in Bay Bulls. Sgt. Flynn said the RCMP will have advice to provide in that regard. The group will meet again in January.

Sgt. Flynn said keeping our communities safe is a joint responsibility. He appreciates the Joint Council's work and is always pleased to attend.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Croft, seconded by Ms. Tucker, that the Minutes of the Southern Shore Joint Council meetings of November 8, 2018 be adopted with the noted changes. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2018-35

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a. **La Mache Park:** The Chair noted that Ms. O'Brien, Ms. Tee and Mr. Power recently met with the manager of La Manche Park, Keith King. The meeting was very informative. Ms. O'Brien and Ms. Tee outlined the joint council's suggestions for improving the park to Mr. King. He was very receptive. Mr. King said the park is limited by a budget. He suggest the joint council advocate further to the department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation. Mr. Power will write a letter to the Minister and request a meeting on the issue. An update will be provided in January 2019 on this topic.

6. EASTERN REGIONAL SERVICE BOARD (ERSB) UPDATE

Mr. Mallowney delivered the regular monthly report from the Eastern Regional Service Board:

The Board of Directors of the Eastern Regional Service Board met on Wednesday, November 29. At that meeting the Board received a financial update for October. Things are on track to meet budgeted expectations for revenue and expenses for 2018.

The Board received an update on its recently released survey. To-date approximately 300 submissions have been received. The majority of responses at this point are positive and have good constructive suggestions on how municipal services delivered by the Board can be improved. The deadline to complete the survey is mid-January. It takes about 10 minutes. Visit GoodNeighbours.ca to get started.

The Board extended Mr. Ed Grant as Chair of the Board for an additional nine months. This will allow the Governance Committee to come up with a succession plan. The succession plan will include how best to elect the Chair moving forward. Harold will keep everyone posted on this issue as time goes on.

The Board reviewed another letter from Government asking staff to cease and desist with court action to recoup fees from delinquent accounts. Some Board members met with the

Minister recently to seek clarification on his position, but not much progress was made. They showed him that the Board (in its entirety) is fed up with the criticism it continues to receive from seasonal property owners. The Board is hopeful that it can bridge the gap here as soon as possible. They are also hopeful any changes required by government won't have an additional cost or liability -- property owners within municipalities or LSDs in the Eastern Region should not be subsidizing services for seasonal properties in unincorporated areas.

Finally, Joint Council members were reminded that monthly ERSB meetings are open to the public. The next one will take place on Wednesday, January 30 at the Fairfield Inn and Suites on Kenmount Road in St. John's.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Draft Joint Council Constitution:** The Chair distributed a draft joint council constitution. Unfortunately, the old constitution is not available, therefore the group had to start from scratch. Members were asked to review the draft, in consultation with the town or local service district, and be prepared to discuss it at the next meeting. Mr. Power will hold the pen on any edits or required changes.
- b. **2019 Meeting Dates:** The Chair asked if everyone was satisfied with the monthly meeting date for the joint council. The group agreed the current date and time works for the vast majority of members. Everyone agreed there is no need to change anything.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Luby, seconded by Ms. Windsor, that the Southern Shore Joint Council meet on the second Thursday of the month in the Town of Ferryland in 2019. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2018-036

- c. **Federal Funding Program:** Ms. O'Brien tabled an e-mail from MP Ken McDonald's office which outlined the cost sharing ratios for communities applying for the Canada Infrastructure Program. She noted that Premier Ball announced a lower community contribution for municipal infrastructure and other projects at the MNL Convention and Trade Show in Gander; however, the new contribution rates do not apply to all municipal projects. This is unfortunate for the communities who have projects they would like to proceed with. Ms. O'Brien suggested that Mr. Power should follow-up with the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment on the issue to determine why the preferential cost share ratio doesn't extend to all programs.

8. COMMUNITY REPORTS/ROUNDTABLE

- a. **Provincial Snow Clearing:** Mr. Conway noted an issue recently with snow clearing and what amounts to poor service by the Department of Transportation and Works. Ms. Sutton added the Trepassey depot and the lack of staff in the region. Mr. Mullowney said there were reports of busses and ambulances being

unable to travel the roads due to the lack of snow clearing equipment in the area to deal with a recent snowfall. Mr. Power will write a letter on the issue for the joint council's consideration at the next meeting.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Sutton, seconded by Mr. Bryan, that the Southern Shore Joint Council write a letter to Minister of Transportation and Works Steve Crocker expressing displeasure with the current snow clearing service on provincial roads on the Southern Shore. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2018-037

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

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Ref#: SSJC2018-038

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.