

SOUTHERN SHORE JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, January 10, 2019

Ferryland Town Office, NL-10, Ferryland, NL

ATTENDEES:

- Harold Mallowney, Bay Bulls (Chair)
- Joan Luby, Bay Bulls
- Eric Maloney, Bay Bulls
- Harry Bryan, Ferryland
- Lucy Carew, Witless Bay
- Bev O'Brien, Cape Broyle
- Adrian Sullivan, Calvert
- Evelyn Tucker, bay Bulls
- Debbie Windsor, Aquaforte
- Christopher Maher, Aquaforte
- Bradley Power, Eastern Regional Service Board

DELEGATION(S):

- Keith Hutchings, MHA
- Randy Murphy, East Coast Trail Association
- Madeleine Florent, East Coast Trail Association
- Pat Carrant, Consultant

PROCEEDINGS:

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the Chair.

2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Luby and seconded by Ms. Windsor, that the Agenda of the Southern Shore Joint Council meeting of January 10, 2019 be adopted with the additions. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2019-001

3. **DELEGATION**

a. **Keith Hutchings, Member of the House of Assembly for the District of Ferryland:**

MHA Hutchings provided an update on the retirement of Dr. McGarry. He noted that the Doctor has served his notice to leave on March 31, 2019. MHA Hutchings spoke with the Honourable John Haggie, Minister of Health and Community

Services about Dr. McGarry's departure and what it means for the region. The department and Eastern Health is completing an assessment of Dr. McGarry's caseload to determine the needs for the region moving forward. They hope Dr. McGarry will continue to do some limited house calls in his retirement. MHA Hutchings will provide updates on this issue as they become available.

In regard to local infrastructure, MHA Hutchings noted two projects. He said that Harbour Bridge is gone out to tender, but the contract hasn't been awarded yet. Five bids were received, with a cost range of \$3.5 million to \$5 million. The contract should be awarded in a week or two. MHA Hutchings will update the joint council next month.

MHA Hutchings reminded everyone that Municipal Capital Works applications are now due. He suggested everyone send him a copy of what they are applying for. He can advocate to Minister Letto for approval of the projects.

MHA Hutchings noted a significant amount of metal has been removed from the Renew's Waste Recovery Facility. He said this is positive news.

Road maintenance continues to be an issue for the region. Many of the issues are on the lower end of the shore. He noted how maintenance and snow clearing is affecting ambulances and school busses. He said the issues are being addressed. The Chair reminded everyone that a letter will soon be sent to Minister Steve Crocker at the Department of Transportation and Works noting everyone's concerns. The response will be tabled at a future meeting.

Ms. Windsor asked if the brush cutting on the Witless Bay Line was going to proceed. MHA Hutchings said the contract was awarded. Ms. Luby noted that work has commenced on the TCH side of the line.

Ms. O'Brien asked MHA Hutchings if he was aware that the Provincial Government has reduced their contribution to projects under the Canada Infrastructure Fund. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has the ability from the federal Government to provide up to 30% of costs, lessening the burden on communities. Unfortunately, the Province has not increased their share and the money is being used elsewhere. Ms. O'Brien says this is unfair. She will reach out to MP McDonald for clarification.

b. Randy Murphy, Madeleine Florent and Pat Curran, East Coast Trail Association:

Mr. Murphy thanked the joint council for the opportunity to provide an update on the work of the East Coast Trail Association in the region. He said there is a significant amount of work going to take place between January and June from Bay Bulls to Trepassey. He and others are working to strengthen relations with towns and communities in the area.

Mr. Murphy and Ms. Florent distributed draft copies of MOUs they plan to present to each town/community in the area. The purpose of the MOU is to establish trail development regulations within all town plans and development jurisdictions. Mr. Murphy and Ms. Florent walked through the draft MOUs, and provided advice to those in attendance on how to move forward.

Mr. Murphy highlighted that 2019 is the 25th anniversary of the East Coast Trail. He added that a special event will be held at government house soon to highlight the anniversary. He anticipates all towns/communities will joint in the event and sign a new declaration committing to the future of the trail system. He will ensure the invite gets sent to everyone present.

Ms. Florent noted that the East Coast Trail will soon be featured on a Fox Sports Network show called Epic Trails. It is anticipated the film will air in July. This will be a huge boost for the trail network. It is expected to drum up additional tourist visits in 2019 and beyond. Millions of people watch the show Epic Trails on a regular basis.

Mr. Murphy and Mr. Curran concluded the presentation by giving those present an advance look at the new signage being rolled out on the trail network this summer. There will be trailhead, parking lot and community signage. The new signage will also be a revenue generator for the association on account of the new sponsorship signage placement opportunities they provide. The group agreed the new signage looks fantastic.

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Luby, seconded by Mr. Bryan, that the Minutes of the Southern Shore Joint Council meetings of Thursday, December 13, 2018 be adopted as tabled. All in favour. Motion carried.

Ref#: SSJC2019-002

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a. **Minister Mitchelmore re: La Manche Provincial Park**: The Chair noted that he, Ms. O'Brien and Ms. Tee will meet with Minister Mitchelmore about issues at La Manche Park on Monday, January 28. An update will be provided at the next meeting. The group is hoping to meet with Minister Coady about quarry development that same day.
- b. **2019 Meeting Calendar**: Mr. Power distributed a 2019 meeting calendar for the group.
- c. **Letter to Department of Transportation and Works Regarding Highway Winter Maintenance**: The Chair read into the record a letter written to Minister Steve Crocker at the Department of Transportation and Works about this issue. There were no concerns with the letter. Mr. Power will send it ASAP.

- d. **Joint Council Constitution:** The Chair reminded the group to provide their comments on the draft constitution as soon as possible. It would be nice to have the constitution finalized and sanctioned before the summer break. Communities are encouraged to bring the draft back to their own communities for comments over the coming weeks. Any suggestions should be fed into Mr. Power for review/updating.

6. EASTERN REGIONAL SERVICE BOARD UPDATE

There was no update from ERSB at this time. The Board will meet again at the end of January. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **MNL Avalon/Eastern Regional Meeting:** The Chair reminded everyone of the upcoming MNL meeting in St. John's on February 1-2 at the Holiday Inn Express. He encouraged everyone to attend this very valuable session.
- b. **Provincial Government Pre-Budget Consultations:** The Chair encouraged all communities to submit their budget priorities to the upcoming Pre-Budget Consultations. The list of dates for consultations was included on the handout provided to the group.
- c. **2019 Canada Summer Jobs:** The Chair reminded everyone of the upcoming deadline in early February for the 2019 Canada Summer Jobs Program.
- d. **Waste Management Strategy Review:** The Chair and Mr. Power provided a brief update on the Waste Management Review recently sanctioned by government. Mr. Mallowney said this is everyone's opportunity to provide input on the future of waste management in the region. He encouraged everyone to consider making a submission. The terms of reference are expected to be release soon. They will be tabled at the next joint council meeting.
- e. **MHA Ches Crosbie:** The Chair noted that MHA Ches Crosbie, Leader of the Official Opposition, has requested an opportunity to speak to the joint council. There were no concerns noted with the request. Mr. Power was instructed to set up the meeting as soon as possible.

8. ROUNDTABLE

- a. **Aquaforte:** Ms. Windsor asked if a community can refuse to collect waste from a property if they have not paid their taxes/fees. Mr. Power noted that the Municipalities Act only provides for towns or LSDs to cut off water for delinquent account. No other service can be cut off as such.
- b. **Ferryland:** Mr. Bryan noted that the Town of Ferryland will be holding a meeting in the coming days regarding regional fire service. He encouraged everyone to send a representative. The date, time and location of the meeting will be communicated as soon as possible.

9. NEXT MEETING - The next meeting of the Joint Council will take place in Ferryland on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Ref#: SSJC2019-003

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.