

## JOINT MAYORS ASSOCIATION OF TRINITY-BAY DE VERDE

# MINUTES

**Thursday, January 18, 2018 @ 8:00 p.m.**  
**Whiteway Town Office, 420 Main Road, Whiteway, NL**

### ATTENDANCE:

There were 21 people in attendance, representing 7 communities

### PROCEEDINGS:

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Clayton Branton at 8:01 p.m.

He welcomed guests to the Town of Whiteway. A roundtable introduction then took place.

#### 2. GUEST SPEAKER(S):

There was no delegation scheduled for the meeting. Representatives from the Municipal Assessment Agency will be attending the next meeting in New Perlican. The Chair also noted that Staff Sgt. Greg Hicks from the Harbour Grace RCMP Detachment will be invited to attend a future meeting as well.

#### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the meeting of November 15, 2017 were presented for review and approval.

***MOTION: Moved by Mr. Hiscock (New Perlican) and Mr. Burrage (New Perlican) that the minutes of November 15, 2017 be adopted with noted errors and omissions. All in favour. Approved.***

Mr. Hiscock commended the new secretary, Ms. Coombs, and the coordinator, Mr. Power, for their work on an excellent set of minutes.

#### **4. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The financial report was delivered by Ms. Kimberly Coombs (Heart's Desire).

The current bank balance is \$957.69.

Payments were made for the Christmas Social and Executive Travel in the amounts of \$1,101.27 and \$150.00 respectively.

Invoices for 2018 membership fees will be forwarded in advance of the next meeting.

***MOTION: Moved by Ms. Coombs (Heart's Desire) and Mr. Randall (Heart's Content) that the financial report be adopted. All in favour. Approved.***

#### **5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

**5.1. Bell Mobility Micro Cell Installation Update** – Mr. Bradley Power delivered an update that he received from Mr. Paul Greene at Bell Mobility regarding the installation of micro cell boxes throughout the region. The installations were to support the expansion of cell and data service in the area. Mr. Power distributed a one-page handout regarding Bell Aliant's work.

Members raised concerns about the lack of service expansion these new micro cell boxes provide. Everyone agreed a tower should have been installed. The micro cell boxes are not enough.

***MOTION: Moved by Mr. Burrage (New Perlican) and Mr. St. George (Heart's Desire) that a letter be sent to Bell Mobility expressing the association's displeasure with the current cell phone service expansion. The letter should state that the association wants a cell tower installed in the region. All in favour. Approved.***

**5.2. Update on Planning Session** – Mr. Hiscock provided an update on the planning session which was scheduled for January, but was cancelled due to a lack of interest by almost half of the member communities. He expressed his frustration with communities not willing to participate or submit a response to the survey that Mr. Power sent around. The association will try

to hold the planning session again on April 14, 2018 at 10AM-2PM in New Perlican.

**5.3. Roadwork and Update on Salt and Sand** – Mr. Mahoney (Whiteway) asked if any update had been received from the Department of Transportation and Works regarding roadwork in the region and the salt and sand issues that were pointed out to Minister Crocker at the last meeting. The Chair noted that he hadn't heard anything new from Minister Crocker since the last meeting. He will continue to advocate to the Minister on the issues that were highlighted.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Update on Provincial Government Regionalization Consultations** – Mr. Power distributed copies of the Provincial Government's What We Heard document stemming from the province-wide consultations on regional governance. He reminded members that work is ongoing to develop the different governance models to be piloted by 2019. He also encouraged everyone to attend the MNL Regional Meetings and MNL Symposium in the spring to be part of the continued discussion.

The Chair commented that it seems as though government didn't fully listen to those participating in the consultation session, especially as it relates to the delineation of regions and the suggested map for the Trinity-Bay de Verde area.

Members all agreed that regional governance is an important issue. For that reason, Mr. Hiscock (New Perlican) and Mr. Cumby (Heart's Content) suggested the association write a letter to MNL requesting additional agenda time for discussion. The letter should also note that holding important session like regional governance should be done with ample time and not occur when conference-goers are expected to check out and drive long distances home.

***MOTION: Moved by Mr. Hiscock (New Perlican) and Mr. Cumby (Heart's Content) that a letter be sent to Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador requesting that additional time be given at the next symposium and conference for regional governance discussion. The letter should clearly state that the discussion should not take place on the final day, nor early in the morning. All in favour. Approved.***

- b. Update on Recent TBDV Social Event** – The Chair provided a brief update on the recent social event, which was hosted by New Perlican. He said the event was well attended (7 or 8 communities), and by all accounts the music and food were great. A special thank you was given to Mr. Hiscock and the New Perlican town council for organizing the event and their continued support. He encouraged the association to continue holding the annual social as it is an important networking event and way to build good relations between communities. Planning for the next social will begin in September.
- c. Update on Recent Eastern Regional Service Board Election** – Mr. Power provided a brief update on the recent ERSB election. He noted that the two representatives for the region are Mr. Glenn Clarke from the Town of Victoria, and Mayor Hilda Whelan from the Town of Whitbourne. They will be reaching out in the future to meet with the association and provide an opportunity to members to ask questions and provide input on the direction of the Board.
- d. Advocacy Issues: Suggested Letters to Government, Industry, etc.** – Mr. Power noted that other joint councils and mayors associations are utilizing an advocacy calendar to guide their discussions from month to month. He will develop a plan in the spring for the association to consider, which will include suggested letters to government and other stakeholders in the region.
- e. NEWS RELEASE: Old Perlican, NL home to new search and rescue lifeboat station** – Mr. Power provided members with a copy of a federal government news release highlighting the recent investment by the Canadian Coast Guard for a new lifeboat station in New Perlican. The release was provided for information purposes only.
- f. NEWS RELEASE: Significant Investments to Improve Internet Access** – Mr. Power provided members with a copy of a provincial government news release highlighting a joint project between the province and federal government to improve internet access throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. Mr. Power noted that members of parliament and local members of the house of assembly are likely to make regional announcements about this funding in the near future.

- g. NEWS RELEASE: Heart's Content Cable Station on short list for UNESCO designation** – Mr. Cumby (Heart's Content) updated members on a news release that went out recently highlighting that the Heart's Content Cable Station was on the short list for UNESCO World Heritage designation. Mr. Hiscock (New Perlican) asked if there's anything the association can do to support the application. Mr. Cumby said he will check and report back at a future meeting of the association.

## **7. COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE:**

- a. Support Request for Regional Fire Training** – The Chair distributed a letter from Melvin Harnum on behalf of the regional fire service. The letter requests funding from each community to support the purchase of a new cascade system and other improvements to the regional training grounds. The Chair noted the association doesn't have any spending authority in this regard and members should bring the request to their respective councils.
- b. Mink Farm** – The Chair noted the ongoing situation with the proposed expansion to the mink farm in Cavendish to include cattle. He noted that they met with their regional Cabinet Minister and the local environmental committee to express frustration with the proposed expansion. He also noted that they've engaged a lawyer. He hopes the expansion doesn't take place at the end of the day for the good of the adjacent communities and local businesses.

## **8. NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2018, in New Perlican.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT:**

Seeing no further business before the group, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

Secretary/Treasurer Kimberly Coombs

February 21, 2018