

JOINT MAYORS ASSOCIATION OF TRINITY-BAY DE VERDE

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 21, 2018 @ 8:00 p.m.
Salmon Cove Community Centre, Salmon Cove, NL

ATTENDANCE:

There were 16 people in attendance, representing 6 communities.

PROCEEDINGS:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Clayton Branton at 8:04 p.m.

2. GUEST SPEAKER(S):

Ms. Charlotte Warford – Recreation Newfoundland and Labrador (RecNL) –

Ms. Warford introduced herself and thanked the Joint Mayors Association for the opportunity to provide an overview of the work of Recreation Newfoundland and Labrador. She is currently the small town's director on the RecNL Board of Directors, and represents communities with populations of 1500 or less. Ms. Warford is also a municipal councillor in the Town of South River.

Mr. Warford provided an overview of RecNL and the various programs they offer. [The presentation is included in Appendix A of this document].

The presentation included an overview of RecNL. It also noted the five organizational goals for RecNL, which are: (1) Active living; (2) Inclusion and access; (3) Connecting people and nature; (4) Supportive environment; and, (5) Recreation capacity.

Ms. Warford also provided an overview of the various programs offered by RecNL. They are: (1) Find Your Fit!; (2) Active for Life; (3) Recreation and

Sports for Persons with a Disability Funding Program; (4) You Can Play Too; (5) Eat Great and Participate; (6) High Five®; and, (7) The Volunteer Recreation Leader Training Program.

She encouraged all communities to become members of RecNL so to receive the benefits that go along with it. There are only three communities from the Joint Mayors Association of Trinity-Bay de Verde who are members. She also encouraged everyone to have their recreation coordinators or community coordinators get more active with RecNL programming whereas there is a wealth of information and funding available to support recreation needs.

Ms. Warford highlighted a training session that will be taking place in Conception Bay North in April. She also noted the annual RecNL conference will be taking place in Gander this year on May 10 and 11 (the weekend after the MNL Symposium). She will have a notice sent out to all communities advising of the dates, times and locations for both initiatives. She explained there is a \$250 training subsidy for communities to attend RecNL-led events.

Ms. Warford noted that RecNL is now looking for nominations for its volunteer of the year and volunteer group of the year awards. Anyone interesting in making a submission can reach out to her at any time.

She concluded by reminding everyone that June is recreation month and that she would like to see all communities get involved. RecNL has a staff of three people and a very active Board. They are working hard to make recreation more accessible. She thanked the association for the opportunity to present and is willing to meet with individual councils if they see any benefit in her doing so.

Ms. Slade asked if 50 Plus Clubs or other community-led groups join RecNL. Ms. Warford said that there are many groups that might find benefit in a RecNL membership. She encourages all groups to make contact and see what opportunities exist.

Ms. Slade also asked about Play Days and whether or not they would be available in 2018. Ms. Warford noted that Play Days were part of the Canada 150 celebration and would not be available moving forward as the money has been committed.

Ms. Warford concluded her presentation and noted that she would stick around to speak to people after the meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the meeting of February 21, 2018 were presented for review and approval.

MOTION: Moved by Mr. St. George and Mr. Hiscock that the minutes of February 21, 2018 be adopted with noted errors and omissions. All in favour. Approved.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

4.1.Planning Session – Mr. Hiscock and Mr. Power noted that the planning session originally scheduled for earlier in the fall has now been moved to April 21, 2018 at 10AM in the Town of New Perlican. This is the final date and all communities are encouraged to attend. Mr. Power will distribute the survey to communities once more to solicit more participation.

4.2.Municipal Assessment Agency Presentation – The Chair noted that since the presentation last meeting by the Municipal Assessment Agency, a rep from the agency was seen carrying out business in the community of Heart's Delight-Islington. Mr. Branton said this is a good sign.

4.3.Bell Tower – Mr. Burridge noted that he recently spoke to Minister Steve Crocker who indicated there may be some funding in the upcoming provincial budget for the installation of new cell towers in rural parts of the province.

4.4.MNL Symposium – Mr. Power confirmed with MNL that they annual Municipal Symposium will be held in Gander on May 3-5, 2018.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Power noted that Ms. Coombs provided the financial report before her departure to holidays, but due to a technical issue, he was unable to print the document. He apologized and said he will ensure Ms. Coombs provides both updates during next month's meeting.

The Chair noted that 8 of the 11 communities have now paid their 2018 membership fees.

Expenses for the months of February and March included the plaque for Ms. Alice Cumby as well as standard monthly meeting costs.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1.NL Community Leaders Forum Facebook Page – Mr. Power noted that the Eastern Regional Service Board has setup a new community leader’s forum on Facebook. This private group is for municipal councillors, LSD committee members and municipal staff to discuss issues of importance to the region online. The group is private and not visible to the public. He encourages everyone to look it up or accept one of the invites he will send around. He also encouraged everyone to get engaged in the discussion online and ask questions.

6.2.Waste Management Review – Mr. Power distributed a news release which outlined the scope of the upcoming review of the Provincial Waste Management Strategy by the Provincial Government. He encouraged all communities to consider the review and provide input to the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment.

6.3.Municipal Capital Works – Mr. Power distributed a news release which outlined the first-round list of approved Municipal Capital Works Projects. He encouraged all communities to have a look at the approval list and to pass it along to their respective councils.

6.4.Commissionaires/Municipal Enforcement – Mr. Hiscock noted that the RCMP doesn’t seem to be following up on all issues in the community, likely as a result of a lack of resources in the region. He noted the issue of ATV use in particular and a lack of follow-up on issues that have been reported.

Mr. Hiscock then said he had heard other communities engaging the services of the Commissionaires to support local policing. Mr. Power confirmed that the Town of Torbay and Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philips had recently hired the services of the Commissionaires to handle municipal policing issues and bylaw and development enforcement. Mr. Hiscock said this type of municipal enforcement is desperately needed in the region.

Mr. Branton said that he will be asking Staff Sgt. Greg Hicks from the local RCMP detachment to attend the next meeting to provide an overview of their work.

Mr. Burrage suggested that the association look into having a presentation by the Commissionaires in the fall. He mentioned that he would contact Mr. Peter Morey in this regard.

Mr. Cumby suggested that the Minister of Justice be contacted to come out and speak with the association about staffing levels and other additional resources for the region.

Mr. Burrage noted that he's spoken with the RCMP in Harbour Grace on issues of importance to his town, but also feels they need more staff.

7. COMMUNITY REPORTS/ROUNDTABLE

7.1. Report on Ms. Alice Cumby's Retirement Celebration – The Chair noted that Ms. Cumby's retirement celebration was very enjoyable and well attended. He said the events were well organized and thanked everyone for attending and showing their support to Ms. Cumby.

7.2. Salmon Cove – Ms. Rodgers noted that Salmon Cove will soon be hiring a new Town Clerk whereas the previous staff member has served their resignation.

7.3. Iron Horse Trail – Ms. Rodgers noted that the Town of Salmon Cove has completed the Iron Horse ATV and walking trail. She believes the Town of Victoria will soon be connecting to the same trail network.

The Chair congratulated the town on their hard work. He also reminded members about the presentation given by Mr. Andy Hennebury last year about trails in the region. He suggested that the association follow-up with Mr. Hennebury in the fall to see if there's any additional information he could provide to support other communities in developing trails.

8. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, in Heart's Desire.

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

APPENDIX A – RecNL Presentation