

PUGWASH VILLAGE COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting #302  
20th September 2011 at 7pm  
Pugwash Village Hall

**Minute Number 302**

**PRESENT**

Rod Benjamin, Jim Whitman, Dave Farley, Linda Langille,

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Lisa Betts

**CALL TO ORDER**

302.1 The Commission of the Village of Pugwash met on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in the Boardroom of the Village Commission Hall.

302.2 Commission chair, Rod Benjamin, called the meeting to order at 7pm.

302.3 Commission chair, Rod Benjamin, welcomed the large gallery present, including staff from the Municipality of the County of Cumberland.

**REGRETS**

302.4 Councillor Allison Gillis extended regrets from Councillor Ron MacNutt.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION**

**302.5 It was moved by Commissioner Farley and seconded by Commissioner Whitman that the Agenda be approved.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES**

**MOTION**

**302.6 It was moved by Commissioner Farley and seconded by Commissioner Langille that the Minutes of Regular Meeting 301 held on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 be approved as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

302.7 There was no business to report that was not included elsewhere in the agenda.

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**PRESENTATION**

**Pugwash and Area Master Plan, Rennie Bugley CAO for Municipality of Cumberland County. Pugwash Area Master Plan Steering Committee report.**

302.8 CAO Bugley introduced other staff present from the Municipality:

Councillor Allison Gillis, (steering committee)

Shelley Hoeg, (steering committee)

Intern, Emily Lutz, (steering committee)

County Planner, Penny Henneberry

CAO Bugley then introduced members of the steering committee:

Ron Robinson, CREDA (absent)

Lisa Betts, Pugwash Village Clerk

Peter Finley, Pugwash Chamber of Commerce

Other individuals who have attended one or more of the steering committee meetings have included:

MP, Scott Armstrong

MP's assistant, Chris G

MLA, Brian Skabar

Councillor Ron MacNutt

302.9 As an introduction to the report (see attached ), CAO Bugley gave a brief background on the origin of the Master Plan. CAO Bugley noted that this generated a large list of projects and the importance of local participation through local leadership. Some of these projects, such as the infrastructure projects of water and sewer will be very expensive and extend over long time lines.

The mandate of the steering committee was outlined and its relationship to the Action Teams. Again, CAO Bugley stressed that it is critical that there is community support for these teams. There has been a substantial amount of time spent in steering committee meetings to lay the foundation for the Action Teams (ATs), the members of which are now identified and should meet as soon as next week. There is a list of responsibilities which should be delegated out within the teams.

302.10 Discussion:

Councillor Gillis: Emphasised that these include very long term plans. Also the Federal government has mandated that all Canadians should have access to clean

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drinking water. There will be an announcement made soon for public funding available for large projects for 2013/2014.

Bugley: The process is lengthy with feasibility studies, environmental studies – it goes on and on.

Commissioner Farley: There has been enough studies and talk, lets get on with getting something done.

Gillis: There is a process to follow and it should be started soon.

Bert McWade: Who actually makes the applications for funding?

Bugley: There may be gas tax dollars available.

McWade: Serves on political party committees at Federal and Provincial levels and his experience is to get the applications in as soon as possible, regardless of details which can be changed at a later date.

Paolo Brenciaglia: Who, and at what level, applies for funding?

Bugley: The Municipality is the most eligible to apply.

Peter Finley: The Action Teams need to be defined.

Earl Chase: The teams are not defined and there are no team leaders. Question: how do gas tax dollars affect the County's budget for feasibility studies?

(Note: the Action Teams are defined, each with a team leader)

Bugley: The County has a Capital Investment Plan for \$75 million which is part of a very long ("100 year") plan but that will not be part of a \$10 million water system.

Denis Brown: There should be an emphasis to be ready. There is another possible global economic crisis and again governments may make money available to stimulate the economy of communities with "shovel ready" projects. Be ready to apply for funding when it becomes available.

Judy Benjamin: What Action Team is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> after infrastructure?

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Bugley: The other teams are not ranked.

The gallery generally agreed that Infrastructure be recognised as the top most priority project.

Lisa Betts: Explained how the Action Teams were defined and how members were first asked for and then invited to fill gaps. There are some spaces left on some teams. Potential team members are welcome to identify themselves to perhaps be included.

Helen Matheson: The Library should be seem as the most “do-able” and why couldn’t it, with money and land, jump ahead of any other project?

Bugley: If the funding were available this could be possible.

Matheson: Is there money for land?

Bugley: The Action Team needs to identify that.

Matheson: Does the steering committee have a priority list? If an action team finds a plan and funds to do a project and takes it to the steering committee, will it happen? Can it be fast tracked? Or will it be handed off by the steering committee to Council and back and forth until time runs out?

McWade: There was a study three years ago and it has not been used. The curling club went ahead anyway.

Bugley: Will have to rely on the ATs for each project. There is a very directed list of work to be done.

Gillis: The NCCC was turned down as a viable project in the Cantwell report and yet it has been successfully completed. If the Library is ready as a project, go for it.

John Caraberis: We should be looking for leadership from the steering committee.

Bugley: The steering committee gives that leadership.

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Bruce Wilson: Who will make the funding applications?

Bugley: The County, under the direction of the steering committee via the ATs

Benjamin: Can there be direction given tonight?

Bugley: No. The ATs have not even met yet.

Emily Lutz: Introduced herself as the County intern and very anxious to be available to help in any way with the ATs. She and Betts had discussed when to first meet and they suggested that the ATs meet next Tuesday.

Betts: All ATs should come to the Village Hall boardroom next Tuesday afternoon at 1pm for all teams to meet. Each AT would then then work out when it is best for them to meet thereafter. Potential new members should come or contact the Village Hall to be put on a team or waiting list.

Bugley: Expressed a concern that the teams become too large.

This part of the meeting ended at 7:50pm and there was a brief break as many of those in the gallery left the board room.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Nova Scotia Utilities and Review Board (UARB)**

302.11 The Clerk gave a brief update based on the media release sent out last week (see attached). The Municipality is to have a report ready by October 7<sup>th</sup>. This has pushed back the Hearing date to February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012. There was a question from the gallery as to whether there will be a plebiscite. It is the understanding of the Village that there will be a plebiscite and that it will be run by the UARB.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Request (FOIPOP)**

302.12 This application continues. Because of the very nature of the item, the Clerk was not at liberty to give any more details.

### **Village Commission Staff**

302.13 Summer recreation director/grounds keeper - Hayden Tilt

The Clerk reported that Hayden's report as recreation director is forthcoming.

Hayden did a grand job watering, fertilizing flowers for the Village and

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Communities in Bloom (CiB). Some funding (\$1,159) has recently come through from the federal government. The remaining wages will be divided between the Village of Pugwash and CiB.

**Gathering of the Clans**

302.14 Financial Report – see attached along with the media release sent out in August.

The Gathering did about as well as last year, which is excellent. The Gathering can afford to donate funds to the same recipients as last year.

Pugwash Fire Dept \$1000

Hospital Auxiliary \$1000

Ground Search and Rescue \$1000

HarbourFest for tending two gates 2 x \$250 = \$500

Chamber of Commerce for tending two gates 2 x \$250 = \$500

Pugwash Legion for tending a gate = \$250

LA Animal Shelter for tending a gate = \$250

The Gathering will also refund the Village of Pugwash \$6,300 which is estimated to be the cost of the Clerk acting as Coordinator (at the pay scale for the Coordinator from last year).

302.15 The Gathering has received an invitation to participate in an appreciation dinner in honour of the Scotiabank employees who work so hard throughout the year for a number of non profit groups in the Pugwash area. The dinner will be at the curling club on September 28<sup>th</sup>. The cost will be split between all the groups who benefit from the Scotiabank fundraising.

**Sidewalks**

302.16 Costin Paving is the only company that expressed an interest in and sent an estimate for repairs to the sidewalks along Water Street. The businesses and residents along Water Street have been warned of the impending work and will be again when the company knows for sure when they will be in the Village to do the work.

**NEW BUSINESS**

302.17 There will be an official ceremony to mark the designation of the CN train station as being a Provincial Historic building on October 18<sup>th</sup> at noon. The Minister for Communities, Culture and Heritage, Dave Wilson, will be on hand to make the presentation.

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**Solid Waste**

302.18 The Village bins are being used for residential and cottage solid waste, and to a lesser degree, by some businesses. Bags of kitty litter, clothes and a dead cat have been discovered in the bins by the maintenance staff. The problem is predicted to get worse when the new rules for waste disposal start in January, which will include the closing of the transfer station in Wallace. Currently, many cottagers stop at the Wallace site to drop off their garbage when they leave the area on a Sunday.

(See attached schedule sheet for current transfer station sites and schedules)

**Cenotaph Fence**

302.19 The fence is beyond repair and needs to be replaced. A meeting with the Village, the Legion and Communities in Bloom will be arranged to discuss how to best move ahead with a replacement.

**Old Fire Hall**

302.20 The future of the fire hall is yet to be determined. In the meanwhile it has become unsightly and needs to be painted.

**MOTION**

**302.21 It was moved by Commissioner Farley and seconded by Commissioner Whitman that a tender be advertised to paint the fire hall.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**LED light exchange**

302.22 The application to Nova Scotia Power (NSPI) to participate in the LED exchange again this year must be made in the next couple of weeks. A stipulation from NSPI for the exchange is that it coincides with the community tree lighting or similar event. The meeting was informed by the gallery that the Chamber of Commerce will not be organizing "Christmas by the Sea" this year but CiB would be organizing their "Homes for the Holidays" on December 10<sup>th</sup> and that this may be an appropriate date for the exchange.

**Park benches**

302.23 The new boardwalk is very popular with walkers but there have been requests for more benches along the boardwalk too.

**MOTION**

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**302.24 It was moved by Commissioner Farley and seconded by Commissioner Langille that the Village purchase three to four park benches up to a value of \$1000.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Letter of Support to CREDA and PPC**

302.25 Chair Benjamin suggested that the Village Commission write a letter of support to CREDA and the Pugwash Parks Commission thanking them for their work towards the restoration of the Cyrus Eaton property.

**MOTION**

**302.26 It was moved by Commissioner Farley and seconded by Commissioner Langille that a letter of support to CREDA and the PPC is to be sent recognizing their efforts towards the restoration of Thinkers' Lodge.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Staff training**

302.27 The Clerk asked the Commission if it would fund course work to be taken through Dalhousie University in local Government (National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration [NACLAA]). Commissioner Farley said that in his capacity as director at large with the Association of Nova Scotian Villages (ANSV), an association of 22 villages in NS, he had inquired about this and other courses offered and been informed that investment in the staff and their education pays off. He had heard that this was a good course to take and that he supported the Clerk in taking the NACLAA course.

**MOTION**

**302.26 It was moved by Commissioner Farley and seconded by Commissioner Langille that the Commission approve funding for the Clerk to take this course.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Use of the Village Hall**

302.27 Recent users (other than for regular booked use) include:

Chair yoga – Wednesday mornings

Community services – occasional use

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**Thank you cards**

302.28 Thank you cards were received from organizations and individuals who were supported by the Village Commission, financially or by making resources available:

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HarbourFest (\$200)  
Sexual Health Centre (use of the board room for girls' workshop)  
Mayors for Peace (\$50)  
Tyler Trenholm (\$500 PDHS bursary)  
Alissa Anderson (\$100 CEES award)

**Requests for funding**

302.29 The Pugwash and District Volunteer Fire Department requested a donation as part of their annual fundraiser mackerel tournament

**MOTION**

**302.30 It was moved by Commissioner Whitman and seconded by Commissioner Langille that the Commission give the fire department the usual \$500 donation.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

302.31 4H requested that some of the refundables collected in Village bins over the summer be donated to their organization. The Commission agreed they could have some of the bags of cans and bottles.

302.32 PDHS senior girls basketball – request for funding.

**MOTION**

**302.33 It was moved by Commissioner Farley and seconded by Commissioner Langille that the Commission make a donation to the senior girls basketball at the same amount as last year (\$200).**

**MOTION CARRIED**

302.34 The Meeting Place. Information about the second annual "Bethlehem Live!" was sent along with a request for the use of some of the ticket booths. The Commission supports the event and would like to help in whatever way it can. The Commissioners agreed that the event organizers should be sure to inform local residents that streets will be closed on the evenings of December 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

302.35 The Clerk Treasurer presented the Treasurer's Report.

**MOTION**

**302.36 It was moved by Treasurer Betts and seconded by Commissioner Farley that the Treasurer's Report be adopted as presented.**

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**MOTION CARRIED**

302.37 Treasurer Betts asked for a motion to purchase a GIC that would replace the capital funds used while the waterfront restoration work was ongoing. The new GIC would have to be large enough to include the interest the cashed GIC would have otherwise incurred

**MOTION**

**302.38 It was moved by Commissioner Farley and seconded by Commissioner Langille that the Commission purchase a GIC for \$31,000 as part of the Village capital reserve fund.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

302.39 Treasurer Betts recommended that the Lee Trenholm Memorial Fund be closed. No deposits had been made for several weeks. The funds will be put against the cost of the memorial bench in Eaton Park.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

302.40 The next regular meeting of the Pugwash Village Commission will be Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>.

302.41 The official opening of the newly restored Thinkers' Lodge as a national historic property will be October 7<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

302.42 The annual general meeting and workshops for the Association of Nova Scotia Villages was held in Baddeck on September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. This was attended by the Clerk, Chair Benjamin and Commissioner Farley who was again voted in as an ANSV director at large at the AGM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**302.55 It was moved by Commissioner Whitman that the meeting be adjourned.**

(Note: Meeting ended at 8:48pm)

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Respectfully submitted  
Lisa Betts  
Clerk Treasurer

**Chair** \_\_\_\_\_

**Clerk Treasurer** \_\_\_\_\_