

Dawson Citizens Improvement Association

Minutes of meeting held Tuesday 1st December, 2020

Present Rene Bazinet, Cathy Bazinet, Peggy Morrison, Wendy Vanevery, Marcus White, Paul McAlister.

Present via Internet Joe Weston

1. Meeting called to order at 14:00
2. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting – proposed Rene B, seconded Marcus W, all in favour.
3. Treasurer's Report Treasurer reported that the current bank balance is \$60,408.00 Cr. This includes the balance of Loan from Government under Covid 19 relief measures for \$40,000.00.
All bills to date are paid apart from one from MNP, our accountants for \$968.59, which Wendy V has been addressing. She explained that this charge was raised by them for assistance with bookkeeping for her, an item which she had never been advised was being accrued. Paul McA will speak to MNP, regarding what the Board considered an excessive charge.
We are also expecting a bill from our insurance broker's which will be approximately \$1800.00.
Income since last report included Hall rental for six days over Hunt Week, which raised \$169.50. This was rounded up to \$250.00, the difference of \$80.50 being considered a donation by the VanEvery Hunt group.
The opening of the fuel pump in Hunt Week realised sales of \$380.54.
4. Secretary's Report Various items as reported elsewhere in minutes
5. Handover Progress Progress continues to be made on the Treasurer's handover. Paul McA will change our accounting from cloud-based to PC based on the grounds of reducing costs. This will involve a one-time purchase, but cost savings should be seen within four months.
He now has fully completed the change of signatories at BMO bank, a long drawn out procedure.
6. Dump As previously advised to Board, Larry Bednarz has resigned from this post as of the last Sunday in November and it will be manned by volunteers until a suitable permanent replacement can be appointed.

Dump hours will change from the first Sunday in 2021 to be: 9:00 to 11:00.
Wendy Van to obtain an up-to-date copy of what is and is not permitted, to be placed in bins.

7. Vidal Bay Ltd Joe W has been asked by Nature Conservancy Canada to be the immediate local point of contact for them. He spoke to our meeting about the broad terms of their project, having furnished us with the contents of their press release. It is their current aim to create a conservancy area with walking trails. Overnight stays will not be permitted. They apologised for not talking to representatives of Dawson township prior to the press release. The model which Joe presented was along the lines of what has happened with their holdings on Cockburn Island, where they work closely with the local community. Effectively, this allows continued use of the land in return for some assistance in maintaining trails etc.
It is also their intention to continue to pay local taxes, even though their status grants them tax exemption.
It is also their intention to communicate with Dawson, at a date to be arranged in the near future.

8. Summer Student Rene B has been in touch with the authorities to discuss what we could avail of for next summer season at the Marina and Campground. He will further advise when necessary.

9. Rates for next season, including commercial boats

Peggy M agreed to consult all other facilities in the vicinity and report back, so that we can take early decisions on setting the rates for the 2021 season for both the Marina and the Campground

10. Fuel pump liability Insurance had not been completed for certain elements of cover on our fuel system. The information requested by the insurance brokers has now been gathered, and sent to them

11. Hydro meters Board identified the number of meters to be read, their location, reporting process and frequency, for the electricity supply we are responsible for. Rene B to complete monthly.

12. Any other business

Wendy V advised of an effort to fund raise for the recruitment of replacement doctors in Gore Bay.

Joe W asked that some discussion could take place to identify a list of fund raisers for the coming year. It was acknowledged that Covid restrictions would greatly influence our efforts in this endeavor.

Cathy B has spoken to Andrew Connery regarding our website, which needs updating. He has agreed to undertake this, and she asked for someone to assist her with this. Paul McA volunteered.

Cathy B – West End Economic Development Officer -she also advised that she had been in touch with Jim Martin, who has agreed that he would continue to be Dawson's representative with LAMBAC on this post. LAMBAC has also requested that a second representative be involved for each area, and Cathy B volunteered to represent Dawson. They required a motion, and thus was proposed by Paul McA and seconded by Marcus W. All agreed.

The defibrillators do not need any reporting currently, as the Hall and Marina are both closed.

Marcus W presented the sum of \$156.35, from collecting empty beer bottles etc. Greatly appreciated by the Board.

13. The meeting went into an "in camera" portion, for discussion on the future of the Marina and Campground.

14. Meeting closed at 16.40.

15. Next meeting Tuesday 5th January, 2021