

**Digby and Area Board of Trade  
Minutes of General Meeting  
Wednesday, May 15 2019  
19<sup>th</sup> Hole , Digby Pines**

**Members Present:** Karen Enright, Kevin Ellis, Rose Allen, Brendan Enright, Charles Cranton, Ed Chisholm, Rick Foote, Sharon MacAlpine, Michael Carty, , Wendy Vissers, Maeve Dixon and Linda Weir

**New Members:**

**Guests:** Hal Theriault and Stacy Doucette - New France Society

**Regrets:** David Cvet , Charles Batstone, Jean Than and James Ngyen, Julie MacLean, Crysi Popowich

**Call to Order:** Meeting opened at 6:05 pm, with Karen Enright in the chair. Introductions around the table, Maeve Dixon and speakers were introduced.

**Approval of the Agenda –** Chair called for additions to the agenda Hearing no additions, but moved up the speakers to earlier position, the chair called for adoption of agenda as amended

***Michael Carty moved to adopt the agenda for May 15 2019 . Seconded by Rick Foote..***

**Approval of Minutes –April 18 2019 .** Chair called for errors or omissions. Hearing none, Chair called for adoption of the minutes as circulated.

***Charles Cranton moved to adopt the minutes of April 18 2019. Seconded by Kevin Ellis. All in favour.  
Motion carried.***

**Guest Speakers -**

Hal Theriault and Stacey Doucette - co -chairs of the New France Society They outlined the long term process of setting up of an experiential centre in Weymouth. Gave an overview of the Stalin family's story of how they came from France with 11 children to Weymouth area due to an old world friend/priest. They formed a very successful business in the forestry /wood industry, provided many jobs and established a community in New France which came to be known as the Electric City with its own railway which took lumber to the wharf in Weymouth. They opened bank accounts, paid workers by cheque and generally handled business different from other merchants in the area. 1910 the mother died and father could not remain in New France, but moved to Weymouth. The New France community became abandoned and the family's home deteriorated. Hal and Stacey are working on bringing back New France with an major interpretive centre and theatre to communicate this story to as many people as possible. Looking to make this another icon in the area similar to Anne of Green Gables with a movie script possible this summer. Book in 1983. Incredible story and want to keep it going. Great tourism potential for Weymouth area. Anyone interested in volunteering, contact Hal or Stacey.

**Michael Carty moved to send letter of support to New France Society from the Board of Trade. Seconded by Ed Chisholm**

**Business Arising From the Minutes:**

- May newsletter will feature member YMCA
- Research analyst position - waiting for go ahead from NS Works. Would like to have position filled before Maeve leaves.
- Business Awards - Tuesday May 28<sup>th</sup> Digby Pines.. Encouraged to attend, purchase tickets.

**New Business-**

## **Correspondence**

- Coast Times - members will receive special feature price .
- Chamber Halifax - offer travel deal through chamber - inclusive tour to India for \$3000

## **Announcements**

- Casa Nova was awarded 5 medals at a recent annual competition. Represented by 37 countries and 3000 products. . Annual open house on Saturday 11- 5 pm

**Adjournment** – Adjourned at 6:50 pm - Wendy Vissers

Next Meeting – June 19 noon meeting.