

**Digby and Area Board of Trade**  
**Minutes of General Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 28 2019**  
**Fundy Complex , Evening**

**Members Present:** Karen Enright, Kevin Ellis, Wendy Vissers, David Cvet, , Michael Carty , Brendan Enright, Charles Batstone, Dave and Debbie Kirton, Lori Prentice-Van Luven, Rick Foote, Judy Green , and Linda Weir

**New Members:** Barb Hawthorne - Hawthorne Bookkeeping ( not in attendance)

**Guests:** Morgan Dunn - Turning the Tide

**Regrets:** Crysi Popowich Julie MacLean

**Call to Order:** Meeting opened following the AGM with Kevin Ellis in the chair.

**Approval of the Agenda –** Chair called for additions to the agenda Hearing no additions, the chair called for adoption of agenda as amended

*Wendy Vissers moved to adopt the agenda for November 28 2019 . Seconded by Judy Green.*

**Approval of Minutes from September 18 2019 .** Chair called for errors or omissions. Error in date at top of page.

**Business Arising From the Minutes:**

- December Newsletter - Feature business will be Turning the Tide - Michael Carty to send information for newsletter.
- Research /social media/website person - Maeve Dickson has been hired for up to 10 hours a month at \$15 /hour.
- Brainstorming Session - David Cvet spoke on the recent session held in conjunction with Board and NSCC. The point of session was to gather ideas, challenges in the area and to come up with positive ideas for improvement. The participants were broken up into two groups to allow the groups to focus on issues relevant to each group. Six points were identified by both groups.- labour market, internet, NS Power grid and infrastructure, Demographics of the community, branding/marketing and season employment. The first step is to dig further into each of these items, gather some intelligence to see has been done to date, so not to “re-invent the wheel”. Representative from WREN advised they are working on the same items. Group looking at getting a progress report from WREN Also David is going to approach the Town and Municipality to see where they currently stand with their efforts on these items. Hope to have this information in the new year. Look at any holes or what is missing and figure out new ways and what their group can do. Meeting with mayor, warden and Erica Rolston of WREN. To report back to the Board. Follow up meeting in new year.

**New Business**

- Hospice Project - David Cvet spoke on the Atlantic Hospice Society project. 6.6 acres of land has been donated at former old CFB Cornwallis hospital site. Site is currently empty. The first step would be the physical structure to start. They would like to have long term care and hospice care and be a hub for the community. Raffle tickets to raise funds can be purchased.
- Town façade program - David Cvet has been raising this project for quite a while. Idea presented to Town last year to improve the business environment and to improve the look of the town. Suggestion was a mural on O’Neil building on wharf. Further discussion with mayor to be had to push further. Maeve will be asked to seek out potential funding to beautify the town. Board to talk with Alain d’Entremont, owner of building regarding the mural. If the town is not going to move on this, then the board should. Comments from the floor spoke to what Yarmouth, Annapolis Royal and other communities are doing, and it was suggested to see where their funding comes from.
- Fundy Rose/Bay Ferries was welcomed back in service after refit. Dave Kirton also pointed out the wow factor with the upgrade at the terminal. Glad to have the ferry back in service.
- No December meeting will be held due to the late November meeting, and the busy holiday season.

- January meeting will be hosted at ABCC for the annual town hall/state of union address by invited local officials - mayor, warden and MLA, with Q & A session afterwards. Board will host with reception food. A date and time to be advised. Chair called for motion to approve.

*Wendy Vissers moved to hold the January general meeting at ABCC. Seconded by Rick Foote. All in favour. Motion carried. Kevin Ellis to contact Mayor Cleveland, Warden MacAlpine and MLA Gordon Wilson. ABCC to be contacted to book once date established.*

## **Correspondence**

- No correspondence

## **Announcements**

- Burns Dinner - open to any group to may wish to take over and organize. Not an item for the Board.
- Casa Nova Fine Beverages advised they will meet customers at the winery by appointment, for those wishing to purchase for the holidays.
- Rene LeBlanc, Digby Pines is leaving his position to take over the General Manager position at Oak Island. Letter to be sent to Rene to thank him for past 22 years of services in the community. He will be missed.
- Three retiring members of the Board were thanked, and new executive members congratulated.
- Judy Green thanked the board for their efforts on the candidates forum. It was well attended and showed a sign of respect for the Board in the community.

**Adjournment** – Wendy Vissers moved to adjourn the general meeting .

**Next Meeting** – January 2020