

# **St. George's Community Garden and Trail Committee**

## **Meeting minutes for Feb 19, 2025, 6:00 – 7:00 pm**

**In attendance:** Siobhan Cregg, Ernie Bennett, Cathy Strickland, Don Strickland, Pauline Bennett, Kristen Hamel

### **1) Meeting called to order at 6:07pm**

### **2) A motion was approved to adopt the Jan 14, 2025 meeting minutes.**

### **3) Finance Update**

- No financial activity in bank account since the Jan 14/25 meeting. Bank balance remains at \$739.53.
- Green Depot account is now \$367.25, increasing \$65.40 since the start of the year.
- The Green Depot account will be cashed out in early April to support construction costs, thus everyone is encouraged to drop off recycles before the end of March.
- \$106.78 is uncommitted balance.

### **4) Committee Incorporation**

- The Committee has been successfully Incorporated.
- ACTION: Siobhan will double check that the Committee can now issue official tax receipts.
- ACTION: Cathy will post a picture of the Incorporation Record on our website and Facebook page.

### **5) Lottery Application**

- A Lottery Application for a single ticket raffle has been made with the objective to raise funds for the Committee. The maximum number of tickets that can be sold is 500.
- The present thinking is there will be three prizes with a total value of ~\$1000, consisting of a hand made Quilt by Cathy Strickland (~\$500 value), a hand made Woven Basket by Ernie Bennett (~\$300 value), and garden themed gift (~\$200 value of gift certificates, garden gloves, seeds, etc).
- Plan is to sell 500 tickets at \$10 each.
- ACTION: Kristen to approach Driftwood Nursery and Farm Road Nursery in Black Duck Siding for donations.
- ACTION: Cathy to get 500 tickets produced.

### **6) Garden Shed**

- Expect the \$900 from Western Wellness Coalition within a few days.

- The High School Industrial Arts Class under the leadership of teacher Richard Dalton will build a 6'x8' shed with this money. They will start work once the money is available. The Art Class are considering painting a Mural on the shed. This will be great engagement with the students.

#### **7) Trail Improvements**

- Successfully granted \$4,000 from ActiveNL towards the planned trail upgrades. This is less than the \$10,000 requested as there were multiple applications from various groups. Expect to receive the granted funds through the Town in early April.
- The priority focus is building the bridge over Molly Ann's Brook which will cost \$6500.
- Alternate funding opportunities are being reviewed, and requests will be made.
- The Section 48 Environmental Permit application for Molly Ann's Bridge was submitted on Jan 23/25 and is expected to take 1-2months for approval.

#### **8) Highway Sign Installation**

- Applied for Sign Installation permit on Jan 4/25. Normally takes 1-2 months.
- Expect to get requested \$6,000 from Town once the budget is approved by the Province. Expect funds to be transferred around mid-March.
- The Highway sign draft has been reviewed and is ready to be produced once the permit and funds are available.
- This project is considered two phases with the initial phase being the Highway Signs and Business direction signs at the bottom of Steel Mountain Road (~\$6,000 as originally presented). The second phase being considered is adding business symbols to the Highway Signs to attract more tourists. This will require additional funding from local businesses and will be advanced once the permit and funds are in place for the initial phase.

#### **9) Earth Day 2025**

- The plan is to engage residents to celebrate Earth Day again this year and focus on cleaning up community areas such as ditches and the local environment (shoreline, woods, etc).
- Date is April 22/25
- The present plan is to encourage clean up during a week period (April 18-24) around Earth Day. However, there would be a dedicated clean up effort by the Committee on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and we will encourage residents to leave any picked up of garbage (in bags) on the edge of the road for Committee members to pick up. We will bring garbage to the Transfer Station and record

the weight of garbage collected for promotion. We will leave posters, garbage bags, gloves and information at various locations in Town on April 15<sup>th</sup>. It is important that we advise the public this is not for household garbage, as that happens separately.

- ACTION: Kristen to update the previous poster and circulate for input.
- ACTION: Kristen to request engagement from the school to get students to participate in Earth Day.
- ACTION: Cathy to discuss with Nikia how the Fire Department could participate to increase awareness.
- ACTION: Pauline to discuss with Helping Hands how they could participate to increase awareness.
- ACTION: Pauline to request gloves from the pharmacy.
- ACTION: Don to request the Town provide garbage bags and pay for the dump fees.

**10) Next meeting**

- Scheduled for April 1/25.
- Time and location to be defined closer to that date.

**11) Meeting Adjourned at 7:18pm.**