

LOCAL SERVICES BOARD OF NOLALU
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2017
7:30 PM
Nolalu Community Centre

Attendance:

Board Members: Ellen Bengtsson, Debra Hitz, Don Jantunen, Sharon Low (Chair)

Secretary/Treasurer: Karen Caren

NCC: Sheree O'Malley

NEST: Teresa Patcheson, Bob Payne, John O'Malley, Camille Turcotte

Absent with Notice: Sherida Bowey

1. Call to Order and Review of Agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Without objection, the following was added under Old Business:

7.7 Rural Economic Development Program – Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)

2. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. Approval of Minutes – February 28, 2017 Meeting

Resolution No. 2017-11:

Moved by Debra Hitz, seconded by Don Jantunen,

THAT the regular meeting minutes of February, 2017, be accepted.

CARRIED

4. Financial Reports – February 2017

Resolution No. 2017-12:

Moved by Don Jantunen, seconded by Debra Hitz,

THAT the LSB expenditures of \$737.46 for administration, \$2,290.17 for recreation services and \$4,187.67 for fire protection services for a total of \$7,215.3 for the month of February 2017 be accepted; and

THAT the reserve account, petty cash and bank account transactions and balances for February 2017, as per the financial statement as compared to the budget, have been reviewed and are hereby approved.

CARRIED

5. Updates

5.1 NCC

Sheree O'Malley noted that the fish derby went well. Final figures are still being calculated but even though attendance numbers were down, mainly due to the weather, attendees spent money. The senior dinners are now over but extra lunch dates are being added.

5.2 NEST

John O'Malley noted that it has been quiet with only 2 first response calls in March. Training is ongoing and the team is gearing up for Spring. The MNR is putting on a wildfire training session hosted by the Neebing Fire Team, and NEST is sending a few members. Three additional members are now qualified as first responders who are available for daytime calls. The team is looking forward to an upcoming training session at Oliver Paipoonge's training centre at the Kakabeka Station.

6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

7. Old Business

7.1 Exclusion of Pete's Lake Property –Status

Sharon noted that she contacted Linda Braun at MNDM for an update on this matter. Linda advised that the legislation has been drafted and is waiting to be signed off on by the Minister. She did not have a timeframe for completion. Sharon read a letter she drafted to Bill Mauro, Acting Minister of Northern Development and Mines, whose desk the legislation is sitting on, requesting that he expedite the process of the Pete's Lake property exclusion. It was the consensus to send the letter with a copy to Linda Braun.

7.2 Educating the Community about the LSB

Sharon read a list of simple questions, provided by Ellen, which could be asked about the LSB in upcoming Grassroots newsletter editions. It was the consensus to publish the list of questions in the June/July Grassroots and request that people attend the June or September meeting to find out the answers.

7.3 LSB Association Update

Sharon noted that the Steering Committee has now completed its review of the *Northern Services Board Act*. The recommendations for amendments will be forwarded to area LSBs for comment prior to submission to the Ministry. Sharon reviewed some of the amendments being suggested, such as extending a board members term from one year to four.

7.4 Consideration of Changing Financial Institutions

Sharon noted that she forwarded a letter to the Regional Manager of Rapport Credit Union outlining three issues the Board is having with the Credit Union: 1. no online access to cancelled cheques; 2. no access to online monthly statements; and 3. board members needing to go to the branch twice to provide identification and signatures as a signing authority.

Karen advised that the Regional Manager, Lennie Hampton, had called and provided solutions to the three issues. Cancelled cheques were not available online because they are an older style which is causing a technical issue with the online access. The Credit Union will pay for 100 new cheques for the Board. The online statement issue should be resolved for March. Board members should only have to visit a branch one time as a signing authority, and Ms. Hampton was going to speak to the Kakabeka Branch about this. Ms. Hampton expressed Rapport Credit Union's appreciation of the LSB's business. Karen was given Ms. Hampton's personal contact information to help directly resolve any future issues. It was the consensus to remain with Rapport Credit and to monitor the issues to ensure they are resolved.

7.5 Recovering Legal Costs for NEST Fire Hall Issue from MNR

Sharon read a letter she drafted to the MNR respecting the recovery of legal fees paid by the LSB with respect to the legal claim of a property owner that the NEST fire hall is on private property and not MNR property. It was the consensus to send the letter instead to the lawyer of the property owner who made the claim since he is the one that initiated the process and caused the expense to the LSB. The letter will provide that the property owner repay the legal fees by June 1, 2017, or further action will be taken by the LSB for collection.

NEST advised that in two to three weeks' time it is hopeful for a resolution to the issue with the MNR and the new property owner.

7.6 Improved Crown Lots and Levy

Sharon read correspondence received from MNDM on this matter dated April 2009, as well as the minutes from the April 29, 2009 where the LSB had resolved not to pursue the Crown lot levy matter since NEST receives compensation for fire calls to Crown Land and the LSB did not want to potentially jeopardize that revenue stream.

It was the consensus to again not pursue Crown Lot levies since the amount received by the LSB in levies would be much lower than what NEST receives in compensation for a Crown lot fire call.

7.7 Rural Economic Development Program – Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)

Debra advised that upon further investigation into the RED grant, that the grant was not applicable to Nolalu. The grant is geared more towards small towns to aid in tourism and marketing.

8. New Business:

8.1 Bi-annual Review of Service Contracts

The three service contracts were reviewed: Moose Media for webpage services; NEST for fire protection services; and NCC for recreation services. All parties are satisfied with the contract wording and that all parties are in compliance with the terms of the agreements.

NCC and NEST do need to provide the LSB with a Certificate of Insurance in accordance with section 4.2 (a) of the agreement.

8.2 Grassroots Newsletter

Sharon advised that NCC is considering publishing the Grassroots on a bi-monthly basis due to the increased printing and mailing costs, which are approximately \$500 per issue. The revenue from advertising is not offsetting the cost.

A discussion ensued of what people feel the purpose of the Grassroots is: 1. for businesses to advertise; 2. for community building; or 3. for information. It was the general consensus that the Grassroots is important for information which includes a calendar of events and community history. If business ads are included the cost per ad should be increased to cover costs. Six Grassroots issues a year would be sufficient.

Sharon undertook to bring these recommendations to the next NCC meeting where the future direction of Grassroots will be discussed.

9. Adjournment of Meeting

The next regular meeting is April 25, 2017 at 7:30 PM.

Resolution No. 2017-13:

Moved by Debra Hitz, seconded by Don Jantunen,

THAT there being no further business and the time being 8:25 PM, the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

Chair _____ Secretary/Treasurer _____