

February 23, 2019  
Cultural Heritage Plan Community Meeting  
Beechville

Grants:

- Who makes the decisions on who gets the grants? No cultural lens. We get denied, but see HRM supporting other events. Need a transparent process.
  - Before grants are put out, there should be consultation in community to see what is needed before HRM defines what the grants are for.
  - Taylor grants to the need of community
  - Should do targeted advertising – come directly to us so we know what Grants to apply for.
  - Do a mail blast through ANS communities the “old fashioned” way
    - word of mouth
    - Centre of Black community is the church advertise through church
    - website
  - Is there a Grant website? How does community find out about grants?
  - Advertising available funding programs
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- Interpretation strategy for ANS sites such as Arnold J Johnson Sports Centre in North Preston.
  - Need signs that speak to the history, struggles of ANS communities.
  - Each ANS community would have a strategy for to who they’d like to remember and how they would like to remember them.
  - We don’t have any such sites to do this. Where can we house something of that nature. Community champions should put it together. Families along St. Margaret’s Bay road should be remembered. Need community stability. Should be able to live along the highway as they always have.
  - What can we do in our community to make this happen?
  - We should be able to get our houses back on the highway
  - How do we preserve culture and heritage and new developments that are ongoing and how is that reconciled with the Regional plan as that continues to move along at the expense of the community which is shrinking?
  - Future development – how does this affect planning for the future? 20-year Beechville Plan
  - With the Cultural Heritage Plan – is there a sub-committee within the ANS Affairs office? Who do we reach out to What are the resources for the office? Concern that it is only a staff of 2. How important is this office to HRM if we only have a staff of two to deal with cultural aspect as well as planning aspects.
  - How well resourced is the office to be dealing with these cultural things? Need more supports. Need more people to do the job well.
  - There is a lack of recognition of important dates in ANS communities. Make the roles within the municipality more known.
  - We need a reference point to speak to and move issues forward.
  - Where does the information we are speaking about get uploaded? What is done with this information?

#### Creators:

- Need space for creation
- Public Access to studios have been closing down. 3 have closed this year
- Fees are restrictive
- Programming – need a variety of programs and opportunities. We have to go to Lakeside for these services and services are very minimal like basketball. Need more cultural and creative programs such as art, dance, drumming, piano, painting, drama in our own community.
- How does HRM decide programs? Level of importance should be defined by the community
- HRM should help with Community initiatives
- HRM should provide space within the community to do the program
- We need a Beechville Recreation Centre
- Lack of funding to hire someone to facilitate the programs
- How many ANS are leading the programs?
- Community members often do it for free or next to nothing. They need to make a living as well.
- Need access to skill development to run the programs

#### Stewarts:

- Provide funding – same resources are not always given. Resources are outside of the community.
- Tendencies to be a volunteer, they should be paid
- One participant stated: “I am 79 and I still have to work to support myself”
- Need more opportunities for people to get the skills
- One participant mentioned an old program called - **The Elder Transcripts** – Summer program – ask youth to translate elder stories. Some of the stories made it to YouTube. Was a great program, but was done once 15 years ago. We need to start programs and have the funding to keep them going each year. These programs can move throughout each community in the summer. Documentation is a problem in our communities. We also need to document these programs. These programs light a spark because they highlight our oral history.
- Bringing youth and elders together.
- We have the technology to document our stories.
- We need a public Access website: Access point to upload/post information. A channel to post stories from Elders
- Youth/Elders together to share stories. We need to upload stories to an accessible platform that all residents in HRM can access.
- Participant mentioned **BlackHalifax.com** – this was done by cultural stewards.
  - We need more video's
  - Need to send out information to let schools know about the program
  - City needs to pay more attention to community groups and help advertise programs like this
  - Help by providing better video production
  - Help further the work that is happening
- Someone should be hire in the ANS Affairs Office to look at these opportunities and provide more insight to these programs.

#### Consumers:

- What about doing crosswalks like the LGBTQ?
- Parade for all ANS Communities
- HRM should provide support and recognition for events already happening in our communities.

Beechville Days, -North Preston Days, and other celebrations in ANS communities. Where is HRM during those celebrations? How will they support us? HRM can provide:

- Banner in Community for Beechville Days
- Bouncy castles
- promotion
- grants
- advertisement
- staff
- can add to their Calendar of events, etc.
- Flag Raising Ceremony should be inside. Sensitive to the time of year and the cold.
- We should have a collective community event on the commons for all ANS communities.