

**Meeting Date:** October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

Meeting Minutes

*Prepared by: Amy Harding, Secretary*

Please submit proposed corrections or omissions to [amy@hardingworks.org](mailto:amy@hardingworks.org) no later than 14 days after Minutes publication date.

### In Attendance

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Anna LeBlanc, President  
Bonnie Rankin, Vice-President  
Amy Harding, Secretary (*online*)

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy MacDonald

#### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

Gloria Fraser  
Susan Forsyth (*online*)  
Philip Landry  
Jennifer Langille  
Myrna LeBlanc  
Linda Schweitzer  
Brenda Spence-MacLeod

### Call to Order, Approvals

President Anna LeBlanc calls meeting to order

- Call for motion to approve meeting agenda  
**Motion:** Jane MacDonald                      **Seconded:** Myrna LeBlanc  
**Vote:** all in favor, motion carried
- Call for motion to approve minutes from October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting  
**Motion:** Brenda Spence-McLeod              **Seconded:** Nancy MacDonald  
**Vote:** motion passes without dissent, motion carried

### Agenda Item: Winter Prep Tasks

#### PICA groundskeeping equipment winterization

- Equipment includes: ride-on mower (Community Centre); push mower (John McCallum Memorial Park); weed whacker (Fire Hall). Philip Landry will complete winterization (oil change, addition of stabilizer to gas tank).

#### Paint storage

- Anna will identify any community-owned paint, identify and move to storage location if necessary (to avoid freezing).

#### Church prep

- Any items remaining from work party will be left as is (excluding paint – Anna will check and relocated per above).
- Nancy will put out calcium chloride.

#### Turning off water in Community Centre

- Jenn volunteers that Fire Department will shut off water and blow lines.

#### Return fire extinguishers

- For those residents who are not year-round: if in possession of a water (not chemical) extinguisher, please bring back to Fire Hall.

## Agenda Item: 2023 Meeting/Event Dates

### PICA Meetings

- The 2023 meeting schedule will follow the general pattern of ‘third Saturday of the month’ (including long weekend in May)
- 2023 meeting dates set as follows:

**Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, Sept 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**

### Community Events

- It is proposed that 2023 event dates (including junk runs, fuel runs, etc.) be set at the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting
- **Motion:** Brenda Spence-McLeod      **Seconded:** Gloria Fraser  
**Vote:** Motion passes without dissent, motion carried

### Event Calendar Access

- PICA meeting dates, along with community event dates, are posted and regularly updated on the Pictou Island Calendar, which can be accessed from bottom of the page at [www.pictouisland.com](http://www.pictouisland.com) or viewed directly [via this link](#).
- For a downloadable calendar invite that will allow you to add the Pictou Island Calendar to your Outlook or other calendaring app, click [here](#) and open the .ics file once downloaded. You will be prompted to select your preferred calendaring app, and then to choose whether you add Pictou Island as a separate calendar, or import events from this calendar into your main calendar.

## Agenda Item: Ferry Service

- Meeting attendees remarked that they have heard numerous comments from the community at large about how smoothly this year’s transition to new ownership went.
- PICA thanks Ryan, Nicole, and Olivia Fleury (and Kirby) for all of their hard work this year. Specific thanks to Ryan, for building the stairs on the mainland dock and adding handrails.

### General Discussion

- Changes to ferry schedule made on short notice have impact on users, particularly those who depend on service to make appointments, etc.
- Hurricane Fiona posed additional communication challenges in the face of schedule changes because individuals were left without power/internet.
- There is not an established communication chain/process for conveying information about schedule changes (both planned and weather-dependent) to those who may be impacted.
  - It would be ideal if those changes were highlighted on the landing page of the ferry website.
  - We are interested in developing and suggesting a clear communication plan to Ryan.
  - For consideration: could Pictou Island Charters contact those with reservations directly when the run for which they are booked is being changed?
- The current website/booking tool has resulted in some confusion because:
  - It doesn’t clearly indicate that when a boat is full, there is an option for second run, nor is there an option to join a waitlist.

- An email was sent by the Ferry Committee on June 30<sup>th</sup> regarding this issue. To date, no response has been received.
  - Jenn will send Amy a copy of this letter.
- Runs disappear from the calendar once full, which makes it seem that there is no ferry run during that timeframe.

### Discussion Outcomes

- It is agreed that clear communication and an ongoing relationship between PICA and both Ryan Fleury, Owner, (Pictou Island Charters) and John Majchrowicz (Manager, Marine Services NS) is essential to the provision of ferry services that meet the needs of island residents and guests.
- Those present agree that PICA is responsible for providing information on how service provision and changes impact users. PICA seeks to collaborate with the above-mentioned parties to facilitate mutually beneficial strategies regarding approach to and communication of any changes, as well as clarity surrounding the booking process and availability (e.g. second runs).
- **Call for motion:** That Amy will draft two letters – one to Ryan, one to John – requesting the opportunity to discuss such strategy and above-described discussion points. Drafts will be submitted for review to Bill Fraser, head of the PICA Ferry Committee.

**Motion:** Brenda Spence-McLeod                      **Seconded:** Nancy MacDonald

**Vote:** motion passes without dissent, motion carried

- As President, Anna (with Amy as backup/second) will be the one to communicate directly with John & Ryan.

### **New Business**

#### PICA Committees

- Anna will be organizing and updating the list of PICA Committees this winter, to identify areas in which volunteers are needed.
  - She will be working from a past list of Committee membership: individuals may be contacted by Anna for clarity as to their current involvement.
- Jennifer Langille tenders her resignation from the Ferry Committee, effective October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### Heritage Society: Document Repository

- Brenda reports that The Heritage Society is creating an online archive (e.g. historical pictures, letters).
- Linda suggests that a link to the archive could be added to the Heritage Society page on the PICA website. Offers that she can arrange this if the Historical Society will:
  1. Review their page and do a markup identifying where and how they would like links to content organized
  2. Send (links to) all archival content to Linda.

#### Damage Report: Hurricane Fiona

- Some damage occurred to the Fire Department doors
- Brenda has walked to the cemetery and reports minimal damage, although there are trees down across the road. There appears to be one gravestone that has been slightly knocked off its plinth.

- Amy will be researching potential government grants to offset cost of repairs to any damage caused by hurricane in November, and will follow up with representatives from PICA, Church Committee, Fire Department, and Heritage Society as appropriate.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Myrna LeBlanc

Seconded: Anna LeBlanc

Vote: all in favor, motion carried