

PICTOU ISLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Meeting Date: May 18th, 2024

Meeting Minutes

Prepared by: Amy Harding, Secretary

Revised June 15, per corrections reported and accepted at June PICA meeting.

In Attendance

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Anna LeBlanc, President
Bonnie Rankin, Vice-President
Anne Chaldecott, Treasurer
Amy Harding, Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ashlynn Baird
Nancy MacDonald

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

Art Dewtie
Philip Landry
Kay Langille
Paula Law
Myrna LeBlanc
Gretchen Maguire
Casey O'Shea
Sheila Rankin
Sheila Tobin
Geoff White*

COMMUNITY ATTENDEES

Ike MacDonald

**Correction 15/6: Geoff White is PICA member, not Community Attendee*

Call to Order, Approvals

President Anna LeBlanc calls meeting to order

- Call for motion to approve minutes from October meeting
Motion: Anne Chaldecott **Seconded:** Bonnie Rankin
Vote: all in favor, motion carried

Agenda Item: Summer Events

- Annual community summer events listed, with predetermined dates provided as known
- Additional 2024 events contributed by members present, dates provided
- Dates for annual events determined based on precent and available weekends
 - Events schedule provided as appendix to meeting
 - Gretchen requests release of a printable 'list of events' as separate document: Amy will do so, and notes events will also be published to PICA Google calendar
- Nancy reports that Kirby Veevers has requested use of Church on August 19th; Church Committee approved (advising Kirby that a donation is encouraged for private use of public space)

Agenda Item: Student Summer Grants

- Anna reports we have received funding for two summer positions: a C@P intern and a Groundskeeping position.
 - Anticipated start date for both positions is June 24th, 2024
 - Both positions will be advertised via PICA community email list
- Anna and Casey volunteer to be primary POCs (supervisory) for Groundskeeping and C@P positions (respectively), as they have held these positions themselves.

PICTOU ISLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

general inquiries: pictouisland@gmail.com

PICA business: contact annaleblanc2013@gmail.com, CC amyharding@hardingworks.org

- Gretchen suggests that Groundskeeping position involve increased attention to equipment maintenance, and will ask Chris (Stafford) if he is willing to provide training in this area.
- Anne suggests that a few people meet and itemize the various community jobs for the Groundskeeping position, to establish an overarching Work Plan for the role.
- Nancy suggests that PICA hire someone in the interim at 10 hours a week at \$16/hr to mow community property.

Motion: Nancy MacDonald **Seconded:** Gretchen Maguire

Vote: all in favor, motion carried

Agenda Item: Municipality of Pictou County Funding Rollover

- Anna confirms that the MOPC community improvement grant of \$3,000 from fall of 2023 was rolled over for 2024 use, notes that the original intent for the funds was construction of a new outhouse at the Community Centre.
- It is proposed that these funds be used this year to build a new outhouse at the Community Centre.
Motion: Bonnie Rankin **Seconded:** Art Dewtie
Vote: all in favor, motion carried
- Gretchen enquires if this is something that could be accomplished at the annual PICA Work Party.
 - Anna notes there is some prework to be done to finalize access to the funds – she will connect with Darla to accomplish this. Receipts must be kept, we will be reimbursed after submission.
 - Nancy notes that we need to have a foreman to design, order materials, and spearhead project. Gretchen will ask questions of local carpenters to see if this is an achievable project for the Work Party. Anna & Gretchen will keep in contact on this.

Agenda Item: Municipality WiFi Access Project

- Anna reports they are looking to come to island and do assessment. She will reach out about the brackets (removed from Community Centre last year) and the possibility of getting WiFi at the Community Centre first.
- It is noted by multiple parties that the WiFi at the Community Centre is very poor. Nancy suggests we could ask TrueNorth to come over and look (with all the downed trees, there might now be a sight line to a tower). Anna will speak to Community WiFi project representative first.

Agenda Item: Parking

- Anne Chaldecott reports the following about 2024 Parking Permits (wharf parking lot)
 - 2024 fee is \$60
 - Limit is one permit per household. Once you pay Anne Chaldecott, she will provide you a permit.
 - 66 permits were issued last year.
- As the wharf parking lot is not public property, there is some discussion of enforcement.
 - Nancy suggests posting signage explaining the lot is not public property, and untagged vehicles may be removed and sent to the mainland (junked).
 - Anne notes that the current process is to place notices on vehicles without permits: 'Will be tagged and marked for removal.'

- There is no 'registry' accompanying permits (because people change vehicles) – it is the presence of a permit that grants permission to park in the wharf lot.

Agenda Item: Church Repairs Funding

- Bonnie reports that over the winter the Church Committee applied for and received funding for repairs to the Church. They are waiting on formal confirmation, and will be working on putting out a tender to get bids (timing TBD; dependent upon gubernatorial permission to release).

Agenda Item: Treasurer's Report

- PICA's fiscal year end is May 31st. Treasurer's Report will be included in June 2024 meeting minutes.

Continued Business

- Myrna reports that the new gate for the cemetery has been received, and just needs to be installed.
- Nancy requests budget parameters and direction on specs for community tent purchase options.
- It is suggested that budget ceiling for tent options should not exceed \$6,000
 - Motion:** Gretchen Maguire **Seconded:** Bonnie Rankin
 - Vote:** all in favor, motion carried
 - Suggested establishment of a working group to assess and bring options to June meeting.
- Bylaw review: Anna notes that we are soliciting suggestions for revision to existing PICA bylaws. Proposed bylaws will be presented at August monthly PICA meeting.
 - Sheila Rankin suggests inclusion of schedule of review within the bylaws themselves.

New Business

- Paula set up session on Coastal Erosion, how to work on preventing/slowing that. If you are interested in having your property assessed for free, please email Paula. Assessment will provide recommendations and best practices on how land owners can mitigate erosion on their property. A notice will be distributed to the PICA community email list.
- Gretchen brings up the question of lighting of community buildings at night (it is noted that upon exiting Church at night, there are no lights.) It is also noted that the Church stairs are in need of non-slip coating (e.g. paint with grit). Solar lights and painting of stairs/ramps can be added to the Groundskeeper job list. Anna will scope out what is needed.
- Ashlynn brings up the issue of not being able to get into Community Centre in case of emergency. It is observed the code on the back door is for the Fire Department.
 - Anna will find a key-hiding device
 - Anne will get more keys made
- *Sheila notes that the (wharf) harbour entry lights aren't working. Anna will let Colin know, as Smallcraft Harbours is responsible for the port and starboard signal lights. [correction 15/6: entry lights are functional, and are maintained by Coast Guard; solar lights at wharf are not working.]*

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Bonnie Rankin

Seconded: Nancy MacDonald

Vote: all in favor, motion carried