

Meeting Date: June 21, 2025

Meeting Minutes

Prepared by: Amy Harding

Please submit proposed corrections or omissions to amy@hardingworks.org by **July 11th, 2025**.

In Attendance

Executive Committee

Anna LeBlanc, President

Bonnie Rankin, Vice-President

Amy Harding, Secretary

Board of Directors

Anne Chaldecott

Jenn Langille

Nancy MacDonald

Linda Schweitzer (remote)

Geoff White

General Membership

Travis Allen

Rob Boudreau

Sheila Brand

Ley Cheverie

Wayne Cheverie

Cathy Gibson

Lisa Hickey

Jevin Law

Paula Law

Myrna LeBlanc

MaryAnne MacDonald

Gretchen Maguire

Sheila Rankin

Brenda Spence-McLeod

Sheila Tobin

Call to Order, Approvals

President Anna LeBlanc calls meeting to order

Correction to May minutes:

- Amy reports that Anne Chaldecott submitted correction regarding wharf fees:
 - Seasonal fee is \$150
 - Overnight is \$20

Motion to amend and accept May minutes with above-noted correction.

- **Motion:** Paula Law **Seconded:** Bonnie Rankin
Vote: all in favor, motion carried

PICA Thank Yous!

In addition to discussing 'island business,' PICA meetings are an opportunity to recognize and thank volunteers who have made particularly noteworthy contributions to the community in the preceding month.



June 2025: PICA Would Like to Thank...

- Everyone who contributed to the successful submission of our Community Facilities Improvement Grant for solar/water upgraders to the Community Centre: **Anna, Aaron (Stretch) MacDonald, Brenda Spence-McLeod,** and **Jenn Langille** for writing letters of support to include,

and especial thanks to **Jenn** and **Aaron (Butch) MacDonald** for taking pictures, costing out, and scoping the project on a very tight timeline.

- From the Church/Cemetery Committee: **everyone who helped put up the new gate at the cemetery.**
- Everyone who pitched in to mow the community properties: **Brenda, Skip, Chris, Darryl, and Sheila.**
- **Ed George** for hauling down the old vehicles that Stevie is taking off the island.
- From Jenn: **Al, Brenda, Darryl, Sheila, MaryAnne, and AJ** – for taking an entire day to show a group from NSCC around the island, at the request of the Caribou Harbour Authority's Secretary.
- From PIFD: All those who have donated toward the purchase of the ambulance: **Kay White, Steve & Cathy Smith; the McCallum-Whitcombs, Ken & Darlene, and Kay Langille.**

Agenda Item: Continuing Business - Updates

Solar Upgrade to Community Centre:

- Butch is in recovery for the next 5 weeks, and Anna asks MaryAnne how he would like to proceed. MaryAnne reports that if Butch has help, he can correct. Geoff W. volunteers to help, and MaryAnne notes that Ike will help as well.
- Most of the materials for project have been received, except for the hot water on demand. There has been some concerns raised about the EcoTemp unit initially quoted, as a number of islanders have recently had issues with them. Geoff H., who is lending his expertise to the project, has suggested considering an alternate, which would mean additional cost.
 - Jenn will get the increased cost figure (in excess of the budgeted \$1,200) and share with the Board; it is suggested Board vote on whether to approve overage and pay out of PICA funds.
 - Motion to allow Directors to vote on approval of cost overage for alternate unit:
 - **Motion:** Sheila Brand **Seconded:** Myrna LeBlanc
 - **Vote:** all in favor, motion carried

Insurance

- **Event insurance** through Recreation Nova Scotia has been renewed. This provides liability insurance for recreation and leisure activities as listed in our application (includes monthly meetings, work parties, potlucks, church concerts: contact Amy for full list of insured activities).
 - Policy excludes liability to owned structures and land, and land maintenance.
- Anne confirms we do have **building insurance** on Community Centre. Anna/Amy will get policy and share it with Jenn – who has volunteered to review and assess extent of liability insurance held. We will report findings at July PICA meeting and discuss whether need exists for revision of coverage.

Summer Students

- We have one confirmed applicant for the C@P position, and one potential for the Groundskeeping position.
- If you have any specific project ideas for summer students – let Anna know.
- Projects requested:
 - Staining the underside of some of the picnic tables (stain in CC basement; MaryAnne has another container if needed)

- Paining foundation of Church
- Myrna notes that they want to have the Church door professionally painted. Travis – a professional painter – volunteers to do so. Thank you, Travis!
- Anna confirms to Brenda that PIHS can request projects of the student – please keep Anna in the loop.

Agenda Item: Calendar of Event Updates

This year's **Junk Runs** will take place as follows:

- 1) The weekend of July 19th/20th (8am; whether Saturday or Sunday is still TBD and will be announced once we have confirmation from Kirby)
- 2) Saturday, August 23rd (8am)

Agenda Item: Church Updates

- Tickets for the July 19th church concert are for sale. Cathy Gibson has them, and they will be for sale at the potluck on June 28th.
- Before the committee proceeds with selling cemetery plots, they will solicit info from the community (to identify anyone who may have previously purchased a plot)
- There is a service on Sunday, July 27th, to celebrate the 115th anniversary of the Church.
- The August 16th Church Jam Session will proceed (though there may be a completing event on the mainland)
- An interpretive panel for church and cemetery is in process, but emphasis is on 'doing it right' rather than meeting a specific deadline.
- **If people want to host an event at the Church:** that's what it's for! Please contact a Church Committee member for info: *'Don't think of it as a church. It's an event venue that can hold large numbers.'*

Agenda Item: Work Party Activities

- PICA's annual Work Party is on June 28th.
- We will meet at the Community Centre at 9am. Please wear close-toed shoes, bring work gloves if you have them, and cleaning supplies if possible, if you are willing to help out with cleaning of the Community Centre or Dance Hall.
- *During the work party, please keep an eye out for things that need to be done – e.g. painting, repairs, etc. If not achievable during work party, please list them on CC chalk board or report them to Anna/Amy.*
- Tent:
 - Moving structure back slightly (away from Community Centre), if possible
 - Putting cover on
 - If patio stones arrive in time, setting stones under frame to lift structure out of the grass to slow decay.
- Cleaning:
 - Church

- Community Centre
- Dance Hall
- Outhouses (Brenda volunteers)
- Repairs:
 - The Dance Hall door is rotten (at least at bottom): assessing and either building new door or putting a kickplate over the rotten part.
 - Church light installation (Anna volunteers Andrew)
- PIGS:
 - MaryAnne notes that the PIGS building is quite full, but will wait until traps are off the wharf to deal with recyclables.

Heritage Society Report

- Brenda notes PIHS work party is taking place later in the day.
 - One of their projects is proper cleaning of the cemetery stones.
- PIHS confirms the panels being done in conjunction with Church/Cemetery Committee are in process.
- The 'big brass plaque' has been installed on the lighthouse.
- PIHS is selling tickets on an original Sheila Rankin painting of the wharf circa 1950. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20, and can be purchased up until the draw date of August 30th.
 - To purchase tickets, see: Brenda Spence-McLeod, Anna, Lorne, or Sheila Rankin.

Harbour Authority Report

- There will be a pancake & sausage breakfast at the wharf on the day of the first junk run (July 19th or 20th – TBD) to raise funds for the boom. Additional details will be provided when available.
- Stretch & Rob will provide recommendation on required specs for the winch.
- Cookbook sales are going well. Contact Jenn to request.
- Smallcraft Harbours will try to come over in the next 2 weeks with Andrew to assess wharf and provide quote for installing ice shields & boom. SteelPro has it waiting for us. Goal is to have the install don in July.
- The lights have arrived: one has been installed, they are waiting on placement of boom to install second.
- **Parking Reminder:**
 - Anne notes there are still some people who have not paid for parking. **Please pay your parking by July 1st.**
 - There is no free parking in the wharf lot. **Anyone wishing to park a vehicle at the wharf must pay the parking fee and display a permit.** Parking fees go toward the maintenance and repair of the ferry dock.

Fire Department Report

- The ambulance has arrived. All medical gear will be stored in the ambulance, which improves first responders' ability to quickly and efficiently respond to emergencies.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the cost of the ambulance can make a donation via e-transfer to picfiredepartment@gmail.com. To date PIFD has received \$2,100 in donations toward the total cost of \$13,640. PIFD will issue a charitable tax receipt for any donations received.

- PIFD hopes to get tire chains for winter driving.
- Stretch and Deborah will meet to review first aid supplies. Deborah has recommended getting 'live feel' dummies. There are some storage concerns; this will be discussed further.

Agenda Item: New Business

- Brenda suggests that PICA establish a plan for outhouse maintenance *outside* the timeframe of the Groundskeeper position (e.g. spring and fall).
- The Community Centre needs a ramp.
 - Anna has done some research on accessibility grants: the deadline for the provincial program has passed.
 - Jenn will share info on the Government of Canada 'grantfinder service' she has found with Amy, as she has not received a response from them. Amy will reach out.
 - Rob will assess how/where the ramp should be installed, and advises that if possible, doing so on the front of the building might be more cost effective (as well as providing greater convenience of use).

There will be a **RatePayers Meeting** on **July 12th** at **11am** with Darla MacKeil.

- Darla has advised Anna that we have just under \$5,000 in our municipal services grant fund.
 - Motion to use funds in municipal services grant toward construction of ramp for Community Centre:
 - **Motion:** Nancy MacDonald **Seconded:** Cathy Gibson
 - **Vote:** all in favor, motion carried
 - Note: Rob advises that cost of construction may exceed \$5,000. Upon receipt of quote, further discussion may be required as to how to raise the remainder of funds needed for this accessibility project.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Geoff White

Seconded: Bonnie Rankin

Vote: all in favor, motion carried