

Minutes of the Seeley's Bay Area Residents' Association (SBARA) Feb. 19, 2026 7 pm meeting held at the Seeley's Bay United Church

Present: Ed. H., Rob V., Monique A-H, Barb V., Michelle T., Cindy S., Jan H., Mary W. David L., Janet P.

Regrets: Cindy H., Chris M., Ron R.

1. Ed welcomed everyone and started the meeting at 7 pm.
2. The **January minutes** were approved with an amendment stating that SBARA will contact all 3 women: Tanya Bagyan, Jessica Maheral and Elise Wheatley (instead of just Tanya Bagyan) to act as lead for our Canada Day event. Moved by Michelle, Cindy S seconded. Carried.
3. **The agenda** was approved with additions of (i) Kids' softball - Mary (ii) Alto train - Cindy S. (iii) Frost Fest request- Monique. Moved by Rob. Mary seconded. Carried.
4. **Financial Report:** It was felt the rent that SBARA paid for the Community Hall for Small Halls was excessive. Monique has asked Council to consider keeping the rent lower for community events where the event's profit stays in the community. Council will offer a separate policy in April. Rob moved for acceptance of the financial report. Janet seconded. Carried.
5. **The Culture, Leisure and Rec Expo:** Ed – As poor weather is forecast for Feb. 20-21, the Expo may be postponed to Feb. 28th and will become a one-day only event. Tracy Holland will let us know. We have enough SBARA members signed up to attend our table. Jan will do a schedule for us. Jan and Ed gave details of the SBARA table.
6. **Firehall Repurposing:** David – The group supporting the Library relocating to the Firehall has made an application for a delegation to the next Council Committee meeting of the Whole on March 2nd. Everyone is encouraged to go. The repurposing committee is looking into having a Farmers'/Crafters' market on the lower level of the Firehall.
7. **Storyfest:** It is now scheduled for April 12th. Rob made a motion that we provide a \$100 prepaid Visa card to James Raffan for his costs for his presentation. Janet seconded. Carried.
8. **Pitch In Day - Sat. Apr. 25th** : Ed – The Legion will be open at 9 am and their members will prepare a lunch of hotdogs. We have asked the Township to have the dumpster for the collected garbage placed across from the Legion. Barb made a motion that SBARA provide \$200 in prizes for participants. The prizes will be: a \$50 gift certificate for Lala's, a \$50 gift certificate for The Junction, a \$50 gift certificate for Ridgway, a \$25 gift certificate for Pam's and a \$25 gift certificate for Sweets. David seconded the motion. Carried. Janet will do a poster for Facebook. A theme of 'Make Seeley's Bay Clean and Green' and asking participants to wear green for the event were suggested.
9. **Red Canoe fest - Sat. June 6th** : Ed – Big Jim will run the Kids' Fishing event again. It was suggested that we could have a 'Red Canoe Hunt' - a family scavenger hunt – with possibly 8-10 locations around the village.

10. **Canada Day update:** Little Ray's Reptiles, costing \$400, is booked. Axe-throwing is booked for 4-8 pm. The drone show is contingent on getting a federal grant. The parade will possibly be from 1-2 pm and needs some extra promotion. All activities, including the opening ceremony, start at noon.

11. **Flowers:** Jan – Janet is doing a poster asking for contributions of any amount for our hanging baskets. A basket costs \$200 and we will have 24 baskets. The campaign will start now.

12. **Physician Recruitment:** Jan – Dr. Briggs will let us know when the new physician is coming.

13. **PEER update:** Ed – nothing to report.

14. **Frost Fest:** Jessica Maheral would like to request \$500 from the Frost Fest committee for kids' activities.

15. **Kids' Softball:** Mary asked if SBARA could support this initiative. Monique made a motion that, if a league is organized, SBARA donate up to \$1000 for set up costs, with the possibility of giving more money later. Rob seconded. Carried.

16. **Alto train:** Cindy S. initiated a discussion regarding the possibility of the Alto train travelling through our area. Many citizens would like to see the tracks be built along the 401 corridor. We will wait for our Township to declare their position on it. March 31, 2026 is the deadline for public consultation.

17. The next SBARA meeting is 19 March '26 at 7 pm at the S.B. United Church. Michelle moved for adjournment at 8:45 pm.