

Seeley's Bay Area Residents' Association

Minutes of the 15 Feb. 2024 meeting of the SB United Church – prepared by Mary W.

Regrets: Cindy S., Brent C., Paul G., Mark J., Angie K.

Guests: Karen Simpson, Peter Gard, Jessica Maheral

1. Monique welcomed everyone.
2. Mary moved for the adoption of the minutes of the 18 Jan. 2024 minutes. Seconded by Ed. Carried.
3. Additions to the agenda: (i) Request for Frost Fest donation for Canadian flags – Jan
(ii) Karen Simpson's and Peter Gard's report regarding Canada Day details organizational.
4. Financial Report: Michelle
Michelle provided a printed report. Bills paid included newsletter expenses, United Church rent, usage of Food Bank's hydro for Christmas trees, marketing services.
Ron moved that SBARA purchase a new 'Square' business platform, and pay for a 2-yr renewal of our website. Seconded by Ed. Carried.
5. Housekeeping items:
 - (i) It was decided to leave the discussion regarding SBARA's bylaws until our next meeting.
 - (ii) Strategic plan report – Ed, Cindy H., and Monique attended a workshop about creating strategic plans which was presented by OMAFRA (Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs) in Smiths Falls. They reported the information was good and they all signed up for a 4-day online session on writing a strategic plan.
 - (iii) Cindy H will add SBARA agendas and meeting minutes to our website.
 - (iv) Canada Day flags – Jan moved that we do a written request to the Frost Fest committee for \$200 to purchase flags for Canada Day. Seconded by Chris. Carried.
6. Information updates:
 - (i) VOLT, our online portal for volunteers for community organizations, was successful in getting all the spots for volunteers needed for Frost Fest filled.
 - (ii) Newsletter – Peter B. provided a copy of the promotion sheet that he gives to businesses to solicit ads. The deadline for receiving material for the next issue is 7 March and the publishing date is 14 March.
 - (iii) Community flowers – There are 24 spots that need a hanging flower basket that cost \$200 each. Jan is looking for sponsors for baskets or donations towards the project. Jan will distribute a advertising poster in the 2nd week of March.
 - (iv) Dr. Recruitment – The CAO of TLTI has responded to the query re: the recruitment brunch for medical students from Queens and Ottawa U. It may be on March 7th.
 - (v) Signage at public dock – Monique, Cindy H., and Chris met with Tracy Holland and McKenna Modler from the TLTI office about the signs. They have a quote of \$10,000 for the signs (including the heritage signs).

(vi) Firehall repurposing – Brent reported by email that the group which includes Cindy H., Brent and Mark from SBARA, met one week ago. Brent will give us an update at the March SBARA meeting.

7. Karen Simpson's and Peter Gard's Canada Day organizational Information:

Details included:

- Karen brought a copy of an older brochure. Last year's (post COVID) scaled down event information was distributed on a single sheet.
- The Canada Day committee's bank balance is \$6, 478.22. They recommended leaving the the signing authority unchanged for now. We need to order more cheques.
- Peter has signed a contract for the fireworks. He was given a firm cost of approximately \$6,000 which isn't due until the end of the fireworks display.
- The musical group 'Backlash' will provide music. It will cost \$500 for the evening or \$600 if a PA system is needed during the day. Peter will continue to be the contact with the band.
- We will need to make arrangements with the fire chief to connect with the fireworks' people and to put up caution tape.
- We will need to get event permits from the Township and County for the parade.
- A grant application for funding needs to be submitted to the Township before April 5 th.
- The stage needed for the band is at Jane de Graff's. Officially it belongs to the Lions Club.
- Arrangements for 2 porta-potties need to be made with Hogans.
- We need to provide a 10' x 20' tent for the stage. We have a one 10' x 10' tent and another one could be purchased.
- We need to obtain a health unit permit for the canteen. Danny Roantree will continue to organize the canteen.
- We also will need garbage cans, 'No Parking' signs and extra picnic tables (11 belong to the park).
- We should plan to provide food for the Fireworks people, the band and the Fire Dept. volunteers.
- We need to organize the Sunday morning church service.
- Karen and Peter suggest we start having Saturday morning organizational meetings at the United Church in May.

8. Coming Events:

- (i) Storyfest: Dr. James Raffan will speak about 'The Changing Arctic' on March 17th. Ron will head up making stew which we will provide for a donation. Mary will bring the bowls (approximately 42) from the United Church, and she will purchase take-out bowls.
- (ii) Red Canoe Fest – We will provide hot dogs on Pat McKerracher's lawn. We will need a barbecue.
- (iii) Spring Clean-up – The Lions will help. It will tentatively take place on April 27th. We will provide hot dogs. We will ask the Legion for use of their patio. We will need a barbecue.

9. There were no TLTI and PEER updates. Ed moved for adjournment at 9:00pm.