

Present

Mayor L. Boucher
Deputy Mayor D. Roberts
Councillor W. Cormier
Councillor M. Farrell
Councillor A. Murray
Councillor D. MacInnis
Councillor J. MacPherson

Warden O. McCarron
Councillor N. Corbett
Councillor V. Chisholm
Councillor R. Deveau
Councillor J. Dunbar
Councillor D. MacDonald
Councillor M. MacLellan

Absent with Regrets

Councillor A. Murray
Councillor J. MacPherson

Deputy Warden H. Stewart
Councillor G. Mattie
Councillor B. MacFarlane

Staff Present

J. Lawrence, CAO, Town of Antigonish G. Horne, Municipal Clerk, County of Antigonish
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk, Town of Antigonish

Also Present

Delegates

1. Call to Order

Mayor L. Boucher called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

2. Round-table Introductions

Round-table Introductions were made to the delegates.

3. Approval of Agenda

"It was Moved by Councillor D. MacInnis and Seconded by Councillor M. MacLellan to approve the Agenda as presented." Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

"It was Moved by Councillor D. MacDonald and Seconded by Councillor N. Corbett to approve the Minutes of the Joint Council Advisory meeting held on June 20, 2018." Motion carried.

5. Presentations

a. Helping the Helpers

Alma Farrell and Michelle MacDonald were welcomed to step forward, and thanked the Councils for having them. It was noted that information was previously distributed to both Councils.

The delegates provided background information on the Helping the Helpers awareness and education program, noting they are now in their 5th year, and previously there was no pro-active information about the mental health of first responders. Councils were advised that the program was first presented at the Strait Area Education and Recreation Centre (SAEREC). They noted they had received a phenomenal response, which encouraged them to carry on.

The delegates then reviewed their objectives. They noted that they have had as many as 300 people attend a program, and have also had attendees and presenters from across Canada. Reported Canadian Public Safety Suicide statistics were provided speaking to the risk of the jobs of first responders and other frontline workers.

Alma Farrell and Michelle MacDonald stated that similar to other employment policies they are hoping for policy to reflect Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). They noted the now have Federal and Provincial support and are here seeking municipal support.

Councils were advised that the organization is recognized nationally, that this is the third year for a similar program in PEI, and that a Helping the Helpers program will be offered in Ontario in November.

A question and answer session followed. Michelle MacDonald encouraged both Councils to attend their upcoming education session (\$20).

Mayor L. Boucher congratulated the delegates for what they have done and continue to do.

b. Skatepark Collective

Jason Mason and Tara Hassin thanked Councils for having them. They acknowledged a recent press release made at the proposed Skatepark site on West Street. They noted that the "Collective" includes the Town and County and anyone else involved in the effort to have a skatepark developed.

J. Mason noted the importance of keeping everyone up to date. He advised they are directing people to their website and working on various ways to disseminate information. He stated he had determined the effort to build a skatepark has been ongoing for 30 years.

T. Hassin stated that recently Matt Schumacher had stepped down, and that J. Mason is taking over as fund-raising Chair. She further noted that Town funding is confirmed, and the County is on board subject to federal and provincial funding.

Assets – Councils were advised on a property on Appleseed Drive they intend to sell. It was noted they are trying to transition to sell it, and put the funds toward the Skateboard Collective, however, they are not counting on that and still intend to fundraise \$167,000., with \$18,000. previously raised.

T. Hassin noted that in the past, M. Schumacher was working toward grants, so they may ask for direction or assistance. It was noted they also received a generous

anonymous donation of \$200,000. Remaining \$500,000 to be split three ways. Working with students for some fundraising. Further, with assistance from Ross Screenprint they will be selling t-shirts and making a good profit.

Councils were advised that a Request for Proposals has gone to a lawyer for vetting. It was noted the lawyer also has the information regarding the lease.

In response to a question from Warden O. McCarron it was noted that the group is in the process of becoming registered, however they will not be a charitable organization and at the end of the day the assets will rest with Town. The Town will be able to accept donations and receive a receipt.

Councils were provided with the website for the Skatepark Collective (Antigonishskateparkcollective.com).

c. Arts House

Ms. B. Letwatis thanked Councils for choosing to host their meeting at the Arts House and provided a brief history on how they had come to this point.

Evan Curley provided Councils with a PowerPoint Presentation noting all projects begin by identifying a community need.

E. Curley noted that it is the vibrancy, skill and education with a good local economy that draws people to this area.

Councils were advised that this partnership began with the Visitor Informer Centre staff, followed by a very generous donation from Highland Building Supplies. The Arts House has now been operating for 3 months, and has made many partnerships and are working on additional partnerships.

E. Curley noted that they are open 7 days a week, and that they currently have classes for young children to adults age, and spoke to the percentage from town and county.

Various Council members provided comments and thank you to the organization for the work they have done for the community.

d. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no 'Business Arising from the Minutes'.

e. Citizen Appointment to the Arena Commission

CAO J. Lawrence noted that advertising for members has not taken place yet, and that in discussion with Council the early in the week, they were generally agreeable to two town and county appointments and two citizen representatives from each unit.

Brief discussion took place with CAO J. Lawrence noting that the Commission agreement has a lot more accountability, with policies, by-laws and procedures in place.

With respect to municipal appointments it was noted that it does not necessarily have to be the Warden and/or Mayor that sits on the committee.

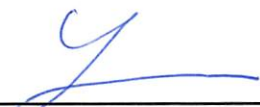
Mayor L. Boucher thanked everyone for coming, and thanked the Arts House for hosting the meeting this evening.

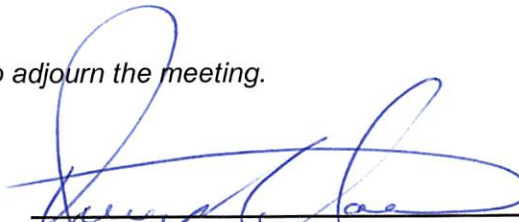
f. **New Business**


There was no 'New Business' to discuss.

g. **Adjournment**

At 6:55 PM Councillor M. MacLellan Moved to adjourn the meeting.



Mayor Laurie Boucher

Warden Owen McCarron

Jeff Lawrence, CAO, Town of Antigonish

Glenn Horne, Municipal Clerk/Treasurer
County of Antigonish