

Committee of the Whole

Committee Updates June 15/21

Mayor Chisholm-Beaton

One Cape Breton: Gateway Project

The Cape Breton Partnership hosted another follow-up meeting. It was determined that the gateway project would need to be properly scoped out. A Future meeting to scope this project will be held virtually in the coming month(s) to both scope out the project and determine how the creation of a multi-year plan can be created with proper consultation. An ask will be coming to partnering municipalities to contribute. The Cape Breton Partnership and Destination Cape Breton can each commit \$5K. The Cape Breton Partnership will forward an ask to Municipalities in the coming weeks regarding next stages.

Housing Advisory Committee (Port Hawkesbury)

The last housing meeting took place on May 26th. Some of the outcomes were to work together on a strategy (possibly the Fall) for some kind of a housing summit to roll out the housing survey results and create a “one stop shop” for all things housing from available land, to zoning, to an overview of demand and opportunities. This summit can have various partners and be designed for citizens, stakeholders and investors. Potential partners can be SACC and the Cape Breton Partnership and others. John will provide a one-two pager on the “start up housing PH” concept for a housing contest. Meeting was very positive and engaging. Next Housing meeting is scheduled for June 16th.

Chair – John Ouellette

One Nova Scotia – REAP Project

Our team have weekly meetings to move forward on our next assignment which is to survey 40 businesses/entrepreneurs and 5 venture capitalist about the economics of our Cape Breton/Strait region. Survey results will be used for our next two-day workshop to be held at the end of the summer/early fall (date yet to be determined).

Allan J MacEachen Regional Airport.

The next meeting will be held June 23rd. Report to follow.

(Chair: Brenda Chisholm-Beaton, Vice Chair: Amanda Mombourquette)

NSFM Executive Board Meetings

As Towns Caucus Chair, I attend our NSFM virtual executive board meetings – the most recent meeting was held June 11th. Along with regular business we had presentations about the Roads report as well as a presentation regarding the Affordable Housing Report.

(Chair – Mayor Amanda McDougall-CBRM).

Government FOCUS (Female Objectives Cape Breton Unama'ki Strait)

Our survey has been launched and will be open to survey respondents for the month of June. This data will help us with overall final design of the mentorship program for women and girls in Eastern Nova Scotia.

(Co-chairs Karen Bernard & Brenda Chisholm-Beaton)

Waterfront Advisory Committee

Next waterfront meeting is yet to be determined. Any reports will follow. Note: A new chair will need to be selected as Joan has given prior notice to vacate the chair for June.

(Chair - TBD - vice chair Mark MacIver)

Housing Survey – Council will receive a presentation this month on June 29th. This file is ongoing.

Destination Cape Breton Association

We continue to work on our post-pandemic Tourism recovery plan, and we continue to focus on the online presence and opportunities to promote Cape Breton to the world. DCBA will be presenting to municipalities across the Island regarding our long-term Island Tourism strategy. They presented at our last Public Meeting.

Accessibility Advisory Meeting

We met virtually May 31st. The members on the call used the time to have a brief discussion regarding potential templates we might use to begin our own Port Hawkesbury Accessibility Plan, any possibilities of collaborating with Richmond and Inverness Counties on our plans, and possible guests coming to speak/present at future meetings. Next meeting date not yet determined. Two co-chairs selected are Matthew Higgins and Brenda Chisholm-Beaton.

Economic Development Advisory Meeting

We met on June 10th. We had a presentation regarding wind power by Iaian Langley which was excellent, and we spoke about various economic development opportunities we can pursue. It was determined that this group would continue to meet over the summer – especially to continue to pursue the opportunities around wind. Housing was also discussed as well as waterfront development.

(Chair) Kevin MacEachern (vice chair) Ashley Taylor