

LOCAL SERVICES BOARD OF NOLALU
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2011
7:30 PM
Nolalu Community Centre

Attendance:

Board Members: Bill Hickman (Acting Chair), Sheree O'Malley, Lloyd Snider
Secretary/Treasurer: Karen Caren
NCC: Caroline DaSilva
NEST: John O'Malley, Bob Payne
Community: Alice Hickman

1. Call to Order and Review of Agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Without objection, the agenda was approved with the addition of the Rural Health Fair as item 8.1.

2. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. Approval of Minutes – May 24, 2011

Moved by Lloyd Snider, seconded by Sheree O'Malley,

THAT the minutes of May 24, 2011, as circulated, be accepted.
CARRIED

4. Financial Reports – May 24, 2011

Moved by Lloyd Snider, seconded by Sheree O'Malley,

THAT the LSB expenditures of \$551.54 for administration, \$1,729.92 for recreation services and \$3,195.83 for fire protection services for a total of \$5,477.29 for the month of May 2011 be accepted; and

THAT the reserve account, petty cash and bank account transactions and balances for May 2011, as per the financial statement, have been reviewed and are hereby approved.
CARRIED

Since there is no meeting scheduled in July, the Secretary/Treasurer informed the members that the July cheques for NCC, NEST, the Secretary/Treasurer honourarium and the Receiver General remittance have been prepared and posted dated for July 28, 2011 for distribution to the recipients. It was the consensus of the members that since these are the regular monthly payments, that this was acceptable, and that the payments will be passed with the July financials at the August 2011 meeting.

5. Updates:

5.1 NCC

Caroline DaSilva informed the members that Father's Day pancake breakfast was the most successful yet with approximately a \$630 profit. Red Neck Games/Family Day is scheduled for July 16th.

5.2 NEST

John O'Malley indicated that May was a quiet month for calls. He also gave a reminder about the golf tournament in July. He noted that Mike Neudorf will be retiring as Fire Chief effective July 6th and that Bob Payne will be filling that position effective the same day. Bob Payne advised that since the training night was moved to Wednesday, five new firefighters have joined the team, with a possibility of two more. He advised that NEST is cross-training the first responders as firefighters in order for those volunteers to be covered by WSIB.

6. Correspondence:

6.1 Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services – Funding for Fire Teams

This letter was a response to the March 22, 2011 resolution respecting capital funding for northern fire teams in Ontario that was passed by the LSB and forwarded to the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. The Deputy Minister of Community Safety, Ian Davidson, advised that the Nolalu Fire Department is already funded under the Northern Fire Protection Program, through the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry. The two ministries have been working together, and will continue to work together, to address long-term operational and capital funding issues of the Northern Fire Protection Program.

6.2 Ministry of Revenue – Notice of Tax Arrears

This letter from the Ministry of Revenue advises of a property that the ministry will be registering a notice of tax arrears against, for forfeiture to the Crown. It was noted that this is the first time that the LSB recalls ever being notified of a property's forfeiture to the Crown. Without objection, discussion of this letter was deferred to item 7.2

6.3 Municipality of Neebing – Support for Reinstatement of Northern Fire Coordinator Position

The Municipality of Neebing advised that it supports the Local Services Board of Nolalu in its request to the province to reinstate the Northern Coordinator as originally promised. Without objection, further discussion was deferred to item 7.3.

7. New Business

7.1 Junior Fire Cadet Program

Bill Hickman, Acting Chair, advised NEST that it is now up to NEST to pursue a Junior Fire Cadet Program, since the LSB has done what it can.

Bob Payne advised that they are investigating further the insurance requirements, as well as reviewing information on other fire cadet programs that was forwarded by Sharon Low. They plan to see if there is interest by the youth in the community to participate in such a program, and if the senior officers are able to provide the training.

7.2 Sale of Crown Lots and Severance of Real Property

Upon receipt of the Notice of Tax Arrears (received in item 6.2), the Secretary/Treasurer noted that she inquired with the Ministry of Revenue if the Ministry conducts tax sales on properties, or if they are automatically forfeited to the Crown. The response was that the Ministry does not conduct tax sales. It only notifies LSBs of the forfeiture and that it will no longer be billing the property. The LSB would then be responsible to collect any pre-2009 LSB arrears on the account. In response to this answer, the Secretary/Treasurer further advised that she inquired with the Ministry if all properties that are in PLT arrears after a certain number of years are automatically forfeited to the Crown, and if there is a tax sale method so that the public can purchase the property. Once received, the response to this question will be provided at the next meeting.

To date, there still has been no response from the Honourable Michael Gravelle, Minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry, to the letter sent to him on these issues. It remains the consensus that Sharon Low is to follow-up with Mr. Gravelle in July with a second letter.

7.3 Reinstatement of Northern Fire Coordinator Position

Bob Payne advised that the Zone 1 Mutual Aid Association was the organization that started lobbying for the reinstatement of the Northern Fire Coordinator position. It has decided to put this issue on hold for now, pending the upcoming provincial election. At that time it may decide to actively pursue it again.

7.4 1:1 Funding for LSBs

Bill Hickman advised that he was in contact with Bill Mauro, MPP on this issue. Mr. Mauro advised to send correspondence so that there is a formal request for him to respond to. Without objection, Bill Hickman undertook to draft correspondence on 1:1 funding, as well as including the issues of the sale of crown lots and severance of real property.

8. New Business:

8.1 Rural Health Fair

An email received from Sharon Low advised that the Rural Health Fair is being held on August 17, 2011 at the NorWest Recreation Centre in Stanley. The event will bring together businesses and organizations that provide services in rural communities. The email provided a summary of the preliminary plans for the event, including a request for the LSB to donate some money for a food booth at the fair, with costs and revenue to be shared by the participating rural communities. There was also information on how vendors who supply services to rural communities can participate in the event.

Moved by Lloyd Snider, seconded by Sheree O'Malley,

THAT money be contributed to the Rural Health Fair food booth, contingent upon the funds being reimbursed from the revenue derived from the sale of the food.

CARRIED

9. Adjournment of Meeting

There is no meeting in July. The next meeting is August 23, 2011 at 7:30 PM.

Moved by Bill Hickman,

THAT there being no further business and the time being 8:14 PM, the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

Chair _____

Secretary/Treasurer _____