

**Heritage Advisory Committee
Mahone Bay**

MINUTES

**Mahone Bay Fire Hall
May 11th, 2016**

Present: Dell Macomber, chair; Judy van Ryckevorsel
Councillors: Penny Carver, Kelly Wilson
Advisor/Secretary: Deborah Trask

Call to Order the Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

1. Approval of agenda: moved by Kelly, seconded by Judy . *approved*

2. Approval of minutes of meeting held April 13th, 2016:
moved by Penny, seconded by Judy. *approved*

3. Business Arising –

a. Public Information Session

- Dell heard back from the Founders Society and Kody Dagley has volunteered from their Board to be the liaison with the HAC.
- Penny will contact the NSCC Heritage Carpentry Program to see if there's interest in participating in a September program

4. Standing Agenda Items:

a. encouragement for property owners

Deborah reported on what is done in other municipalities in the way of incentives, and what is permitted under the Heritage Property Act. Kevin Barrett of the provincial Heritage Property Program wrote that there are 5 municipalities that offer incentives to registered municipal heritage property owners (in some cases, to historic properties), specifically:

Halifax Regional Municipality
Cape Breton Regional Municipality
District of Digby (historic churches)
Town of Yarmouth
District of East Hants

The larger municipalities have richer programs but most are based on the provincial program and allow for a 50% cost-sharing for improvements to the exterior for pre-approved projects, to a set maximum, with a limit on how often the home owner can apply to the program. There is also a 'Facade Improvement Program' in the Town of

Yarmouth and also Bridgewater, which is not limited to heritage properties. Facades are not really a concern in Mahone Bay, but the program model is something to consider in terms of channeling municipal funds to sidestep the MGA restrictions.

Deborah will prepare a report on what is done in other jurisdictions, to enable further discussion.

5. Correspondence:

Deborah requested advice from Kevin Barrett following the March meeting of the HAC, concerning a realtor who recently discouraged a homeowner from applying for municipal heritage designation. His response [via e-mail. 12 April 2016] states that the HAC, through Council, should complain to the Nova Scotia Real Estate Commission. Members of HAC did not feel that this would be productive. Dell will check with a local realtor to see if there is a local association of realtors. She will also seek more info from the home owner.

6. New Business:

Penny asked if the HAC could meet in the daytime. This should be considered by the new committee coming in in the Fall.

7. Date of next meeting: June 8th, 2016

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM on a motion by Kelly, seconded by Judy.



Dell Macomber, Chair HAC



Deborah Trask, Recording Secretary