

**Meeting of the Community Committee of Cheticamp-LeMoine
5 January 2015
7:00 pm**

Present: Paul Gallant, Lyne Larade, Alfred Arthur Poirier, Marie Aucoin, Alfred Aucoin, William Roach, Gloria Leblanc, Perry Muise, Lynn Deveau, Michele Pothier, Marcel Aucoin, Denise Arsenault

Absent: Alcida Landry, Leonard Leblanc, Stephane Sogne

The President opened by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Denise read the minutes of the previous meeting (24 November 2014.) Lynn Deveau noted that she had been omitted from the attendance roster of that meeting. It was also noted that Denise is now using the name Arsenault and not Poirier.

Marcel Aucoin moved that the minutes be corrected to reflect the changes. Lynn Deveau seconded the motion.

Motion carried

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Denise Arsenault and seconded by Alfred Aucoin to accept the Agenda as circulated.

Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

a) “In Camera” Session:

The Committee met in a closed session to deal with correspondence of a personal nature that had been received. Marie Aucoin recused herself from the discussion and left the room.

Alfred Aucoin moved that a letter, signed by the President on behalf of the CCCL, be sent in response to the correspondence as discussed. Seconded by Michele Pothier.

Motion carried

[At this point Marie Aucoin rejoined the meeting]

b) Sector Reports:

Each sector representative shared news about their sectors or shared their ideas:

i. **Education:** Paul Gallant spoke about the money that has been invested by Dalhousie University to construct a shelter for the Farmers’ Market. He also mentioned the possibility of developing a project to establish an academy of the arts within École NDA: This would be for grades 11/12 with the curriculum concentrated on arts and culture.

ii. **Tourism:** Lyne Larade said that she had sent letters to tourism industry leaders in the region but had received few responses.

iii. **Health:** Dr. Marcel Aucoin has created a newsletter for all of the employees of the hospital, foyer, homecare, public health care workers and other healthcare professionals in the community. He also spoke to us about the new xray technician who will be moving to Cheticamp with her family and asked that we make an effort to make her feel welcome.

iv. **Arts & Culture:** William Roach reported that he had attended an arts festival meeting and had spoken to several people who would be willing to help if the festival goes ahead.

v. **Youth:** Denise Arsenault said that since young families fall under her sector she had contacted some of them but so far has received no response. She has started a Facebook page to keep area youth up to date with news from the CCCL and other relevant news. She has also created two support groups on Facebook: One for those who have suffered a miscarriage, the loss of a child or suffer from infertility; the other is a support group for mothers who breastfeed or wish to learn more about breastfeeding.

vi. **Safety:** Alfred Aucoin said that there was a need for an umbrella committee such as ours for the Firemen, Coastguard, Parks Canada, Police, Search & Rescue. He suggested that one of the most important things that we need in this area is proper civic addressing for the emergency responders to be able to locate people and places as quickly as possible.

vii. **Business:** Michele Pothier said that Clause Bourgeois told her that he can organize communications within the business sector.

viii. **Seniors:** Although not in attendance at the meeting, Alcida Landry had passed on a message that she had contacted the seniors and would be meeting with them soon.

ix. **Sport & Recreation:** Perry Muise said that he had contacted the school administration and the students in grades 10, 11 and 12. Someone suggested the possibility of having a curling club at the arena. Someone also suggested that statistics on all of the halls in the region should be collected and this should include dimensions, usage, receivables and payables.

x. **Environment:** Stephane Sogne, sector representative, was absent – no report.

xi. **Coops:** Lynn Deveau reported that at the present time there is no system of communication within the sector and she hopes to create a group newsletter.

xii. **Fisheries:** Leonard Leblanc, the sector representative, was absent – no report

Communications: Marie Aucoin plans to contact the communications sector soon. In the meantime she spoke about the success some towns have had using a “sandbox” model for start-up businesses. The “sandbox” is a common office area where businesses share resources (both human and physical) thereby cutting their costs. She also wondered if it would be feasible for Cheticamp to consider forming a wind power cooperative. She will do more research on this.

c) Discussions/Ideas:

i. There was some discussion of the reports of the sector representatives to the Committee. As a result, we decided that we need to develop a policy listing criteria to help us determine how we can best respond to sector organization requests.

ii. Lyne Larade suggested the possibility of establishing a welcoming committee to greet newcomers to the area. When people move here they often have no idea of whom to contact when they need something. She also suggested that we lobby the Department of Transportation to install a webcam in the Acadian region for the safety of drivers, especially during the winter months when the roads in this area can be extremely dangerous to navigate.

iii. Marie Aucoin asked the committee if they were satisfied with the draft Terms of Reference. Some of the committee members indicated that they had not received a copy of the document. Therefore, it was decided to table further discussion of this document until the next meeting, when all of the members should have had an opportunity to read it.

iv. Paul Gallant informed the committee that there is a requirement for the Committee to establish formal Policies and Procedures. The Executive Committee will work on a draft of these and have them ready to present at the next meeting.

v. William Roach asked about the duties of a Committee member. It was explained that each member is there to represent their individual sector and as such is expected to communicate with the sector and bring the sectors concerns/ideas/projects to the Committee meetings for consideration. Once the policies and procedures of the Committee are in place, the roles of the Committee members will be more clearly defined.

vi. Denise Arsenault talked about the possibility of developing a website with a directory of businesses. This would be helpful in general and may also help encourage sharing of business between Cheticamp and other Cape Breton communities. She will conduct further research on this and report back to the Committee.

vii. Yvon Michaud (a member of the public) made a presentation to the CCCL. He asked that we approach the government and ask them about the possibility of establishing a naval reserve unit in this region. It was an interesting proposal and the Committee had many questions for him. After some discussion, we asked him to return at a later date

once he has the answers to the pertinent questions that had been asked and can submit a more complete proposal.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm. The date of the next meeting is March 3, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

[The original minutes (French version) were signed by Lyne Larade, President CCCL.]