

**MINDEMOYA OLD SCHOOL REPURPOSING COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 30, 2018  
MINDEMOYA COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Councillor Alex Baran, Sam Bondi, Councillor Linda Farquhar, Hal Love, Janice McQuay, Joanne Smith, Mayor Richard Stephens, Chairperson Ted Williamson, and Economic Development Officer Nancy Kinoshameg, 1 member of the press and 1 member of the public.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

**MOTION: Love and Bondi**

That the agenda be approved with the addition of 6 b) Better Living Centre...carried.

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Consultation follow-up:

Local seniors' groups	Mindemoya Seniors Group – older seniors not interested in volunteering, younger seniors liked the idea. Gordon's development – 1 person thought it was a good idea but not committed to attend since member in Providence Bay. Providence Bay Seniors Club – were not interested in joining and would like to keep their own facility.
School of Architecture	Recently got a new Dean and have not been contacted. 3 <sup>rd</sup> year student projects could focus on buildings but at this point in the year have already started. Andrea Tann, who works for an architecture firm, would like to volunteer with some preliminary designs that could be used for grant applications.
Ministry of Seniors Affairs	Information on their mandate was shared and also which Ministry is responsible for Seniors' Affairs They have funding available for Seniors Active Living Centres but the deadline has passed to submit an application, although application will still be accepted until March 31, 2018.
LAMBAC	They are available in February with both FedNor and MNM. Most committee members are available on the 12 <sup>th</sup> at 1:30. Hal will contact them and let us know the details of the meeting.

Committee member expressed various concerns including: having enough volunteers to run the potential activities; specific details on operations and programming; and, the status of other municipal buildings used by seniors.

Modifying a questionnaire from an existing seniors' program in Ontario to suit our needs is a good place to start. Janice, Hal and Ted have volunteers to work on developing a questionnaire that will provide information on potential activities, interest and support for a seniors' centre in the Old School building. There was some discussion on disseminating the questionnaire and the idea of some type of community consultation at our community halls was mentioned. This can be discussed once the questionnaire is ready.

Some discussion focused on developing Phase 1, which is renovating the basement for the seniors centre. There were some opposing views with starting in the basement. It was mentioned that Mindemoya is the hub of the municipality and needs to offer more for senior citizens. Phase 1 needs to have a solid plan to move ahead with applying for funding.

The EDO provided some information on grants available for seniors, but most were not available to municipalities or do not fund renovations or upgrades to buildings. Nearly all were closed for applications at this time. The Ontario Trillium Foundation has a cycle for funding and is currently open. One committee member brought forward a federal grant, The Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage, which does provide capital funding.

Everyone received the proposal for the Evaluation of the Old School Building sent from the Central Manitoulin Historical Society. It presented the cost and scope of evaluating the cultural heritage value or interest of the Old School building. Several committee members cautioned the group of the limits and constraints a heritage designation puts on a building, along with perpetual expenses for maintenance and conservation.

The Better Living Centre in Toronto was briefly discussed and brochures on their available programs were distributed.

The Facebook page is administered by Janice and she will continue to post messages and updates. She has agreed to boost her posts at her expense and was encouraged to include the Sudbury area.

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday February 20, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.** in the Central Manitoulin Council Chambers.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. on a **motion by Sam Bondi.**