

MAHONE BAY CENTRE SOCIETY  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MAHONE BAY CENTRE  
JUNE 20TH. 7:00pm

Annual Report of the Arts Committee

Prepared by Deborah Hickman

Members of the Committee:  
Deborah Hickman, Chairperson  
Lynn Rotin  
Rita LaMontagne MacDonald  
Sarah McClure  
Susan Feindel

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Annual Report of the Policies, Procedures & Charitable Status  
Committee: Prepared by Russ Barton.

Members:

Chair Russ Barton.

David Puxley;

Bill Snyder;

Derrick Wickstrom;

Deborah Hickman.

The committee began as the Charitable Status Committee. As such we prepared an application to Revenue Canada requesting charitable status for the Society. With charitable status the Society would be able to accept donations and issue tax receipts to the donors. We see acquiring charitable status as an essential part of our fund raising strategy.

We received a letter from the charitable status assessor with a number of questions that required answering if we were to succeed. It became apparent from the questions that the Society was not structured in a way that favoured acquiring status. Nor were its activities or goals conducive to success.

The changes needed for the Society to qualify were so significantly different that we would have to discuss future directions with the membership in general. Essentially, because our major source of income comes from rentals and we were not giving out money to activities deemed charitable, we would not qualify. Rather than be turned down and, thus

2000 07 17 MBCS MINUTES.txt

Subject: Board Minutes 17/7/00

Date: Fri, 21 Jul 2000 09:53:56 -0300

From: cheide@tallships.istar.ca (Chris Heide)

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Mahone Bay Centre Society

Minutes of July 17th Board Meeting

Town Hall, 7:30 pm

Present: Bill Snyder, Keith Towse, Margot Kleiker, Deborah Hickman  
Regrets: Ellen Aggar, Andrew Trivett, Helen Opie, Denise Rostas, David Puxley

Absent: Bob Douglas, Joanne Scobey-Sutherland

Minutes from June 26 approved as written

1. Additions to Board

- the procedure for adding new members to the Board was discussed: Prospective new members are suggested at a Board meeting or brought to the attention of the Chair and several other executive if between meetings. The limit of members is 15. Interested parties are then invited to attend a board meeting to determine if the appointment is mutually agreeable.

Appointment of new members becomes official only at the AGM.

- Margot has suggested that we invite Rick Wickstrom a lawyer residing in Clearland. Although Margot does not know Rick, he comes highly recommended and is interested in joining the board. His wife, also a lawyer has offered her services for research work.

we decided that the Chair would call him, update him on our progress and activities and invite him to attend a meeting.

- it was agreed that we need a youth member. Bill will ask Denise who is the Youth Action Team mentor to invite Tessa or Jessica to appoint a member. We agreed to record one name but allow for substitutions at meetings.

- Others mentioned: Doris Cook, Ann Mathiason, Suzanne Lohnes-Croft.

- Since a BBQ for members has been planned (see item # 3) it was felt that the above people should be invited to that before being invited to join the board.

2. Committees

- Deborah asked that the Bylaws Committee take on the job of applying for Charitable status. All agreed that it was timely to do so. Bill will speak with the others on the committee and begin a list of items required for the application.

- Deborah suggested that we consider asking the Mahone Bay Heritage and Cultural Society if they would take on the task of applying for charitable status for the old school. All agreed. Deborah will ask David to ask the Society.

3. Committee Reports

Communications Committee - Keith

Keith did a brief update on the status to date of the membership drive. It has been slow

(about 40 memberships have been sold so far). David has an up-to-date memberships list which we can refer to while requiring - contact David for this.

- the booth at the Firemans Garden Party resulted in about 13 new memberships

- thanks to Lynn Rotin for creating a great sign for the table.

New strategies for selling memberships are needed ie. a door-to-door campaign.

2000 07 17 MBCS MINUTES.txt

-amendments to the Q & A sheet were suggested;  
drop the line "Has the school bell tolled for the last time" as  
this implies that the project is about keeping the school open.  
- add something about the responsibility of becoming a member ie.  
only to support, no work necessary unless offered.  
- add a line which will insure the confidentiality of the  
membership list.

Business Plan - Deborah

- the committee has not met since the last Board meeting of June  
26. An outline of the plan is in the works. There should be something  
to report for the next board meeting.

- Don Himmelman's draft response on behalf of the Alternative  
Health practitioners to the tenants letter was discussed - it looks  
promising.

- Deborah spoke with Tim Brodie of the #14 Reserve Squadron who  
assured her that the squadron very much wants to lease the junior high,  
both floors with the exception of the gym. It seems that municipal  
politics must be worked out before we will know if this will happen.  
They want to move in in September. This will be difficult if the school has  
not been decommissioned by then. Deborah will keep in touch with Tim.

Cash Flow Report

- to date \$359.39 has been collected in memberships and donations.  
Keith did not have all of the information on bills paid or owing so  
could not give us a full picture but it looks good in terms of  
covering our immediate expenses.

4. Strategy  
Public

- it was decided that a door-to-door campaign is needed to recruit  
more members

The Council

- Margot suggested that we may need to be a bit more aggressive with  
Council. She suggested a petition

- it was decided to keep this as a "last resort action"

- suggestion was made to invite councillors to our garden party

August 6

The Society

- Bill suggested that we need to revitalize ourselves. He suggested  
a BBQ as a social event in the town garden by the pond.

- The communications Committee will organize and publicize this

- the event will be for the membership with invitations to those  
considering membership

- date selected: Sunday August 6, 4:00 - 7:30

- Deborah will obtain permission to use the park

NEXT BOARD MEETING: WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2 - 7:30 TOWN HALL

MBC SOCIETY GARDEN PARTY AUGUST 6 4:00 - 7:30

THE POND BY THE COMMUNITY GARDENS bring a new member!

OTHER DATES;

AUGUST 1: Public information meeting on the proposed amendments to  
the old school property by Council. Council Chambers

AUGUST 8: A public hearing on the above.