

Lochaber Community Development Association  
Minutes of Monthly Meeting  
October 08, 2019

**Attendees:**

Ken May, Bonnie May, Hariotte MacMillan, Carolyn MacDonald, Michele Maceachern, Dorothy Kerns, Carol Young, Greg Carter, Edwin Demont, Bev Tait, Paul McClung, Joanne Campbell, Lorraine MacDonald and Michelle Stewart.

**Agenda Items:**

iNaturalist project for the St. Mary's River watershed which includes Lochaber Lake - Edwin Demont is involved with this project and talked about this global network, a citizen science project to promote biodiversity and identify rich diversity on the river, and creates an opportunity for communities to connect. Inviting community to use app available, take pictures, post pictures, document on space, Looking at having a bioblitz next spring. Edwin will send link to Carolyn who can share with community members.

Summer Art Festival on the St. Mary's River - Edwin Demont talked about the Art House located at the old tourist bureau building in Antigonish. Each year they have an Art event where artists travel to the area to paint in the wild. Maximum of 30 artists participate and they create two pieces of art each for a maximum of 60 pieces which they showcase and make available for sale. The next event will be in September 2020. Looking to celebrate this Festival by holding an event where people can gather to meet and connect with the artists and provide beautiful spaces to paint and hold an art show and sale. Edwin will share information as it becomes available.

Seniors Program - Bev Tait talked about how the membership in the seniors group is declining for a variety of reasons (irregular attendance, lack of interest, seasonal residents leaving the area for the winter or permanently) and it may not be feasible to continue the group. The seniors plan to canvas new and inactive members over the next month to see if the membership increases. A memo will also be sent out to current members and potential new members in an attempt to turn the program around. Bev will report back at the November meeting.

Power Outage - Greg Carter brought up the extended power failure we had in September due to Dorian. He shared that when the power goes out for an extended period of time, the Community might want to be thinking about having a plan in place for the Centre to open to community members who do not have a generator. Most likely the telephone, cell phone, and internet would also be out of service as it was with Dorian. Some community folks were without power and communications for several days. This was a unique situation as it was very warm during this storm. This may not always be the case. During Dorian, the Centre was open from 8:00am - 2:00pm. Any volunteers willing/available to take a look at this issue?

The Lochaber Centre is designated by the Municipality of the County of Antigonish as an Emergency Warming Station in the event of an Emergency. The Municipality would contact the Centre requesting that it be opened and the LCDA would put the plan in place for providing this community service. There is a procedures manual on file at the Centre for when this occurs. Glenn Terris took the lead on behalf of LCDA to get this set up.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

No meeting held in September due to Dorian.

### **Reports:**

Treasurer Report for September - Approved by Carol Young  
- Second by Lorraine MacDonald

### **Committees:**

Slideshow to showcase our community during events at the Centre:

Bonnie May gave an update on progress to date and the goal is to have the slideshow ready for the December 8th breakfast. It was also suggested to post the pictures on google maps by uploading as another way for tourists and locals to connect with Lochaber and the Centre. Edwin Demont offered to meet at the Centre and show folks how to do this if there is any interest. Bonnie will update progress at the November meeting.

### **Other Business - Updates:**

- Heat Coil cleaning/diving - To be completed by fall 2019
- Accessibility Grant Application - requires additional information, after election
- Communications Community Corner (CCC) - To be completed by fall 2019
- Fire Extinguishers - due for service in September, not completed yet.
- Elections Canada booked the Centre as a polling station for Election on October 21, 2019.
- Yearly maintenance service on the Generator - Billy MacMillan will complete the service and advise when done.
- Crib is starting the first week of November
- Park Bench Program - Pictou Community College - making a steel bench in their sheet metal program for LCDA to take a look at. If we decide it's not what we need, PCC will use it in their campus courtyard for seating.

### **Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

Next meeting November 12, 2019