

District of Metchosin

Minutes

**Healthy Community Advisory Select Committee Meeting**

**June 25, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.**

Council Chamber

Metchosin Municipal Hall

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**Present:** Shari Rourke (Chair), Sarah Anthony, Ted White, Shannon Carman (Recorder), Councillor Sharie Epp, Barret Fullerton, Jim MacPherson, Kathleen Sutherland

**Regrets:** Peter Havers, Chris Pratt, Stephanie Dunlop

The meeting was called to order at 4:38 p.m.

**1. Agenda, Additions and Approval**

Add the Metchosin Village Square under Other Business a), add Recreation under b), and Summer Meeting Schedule c) and add Business Directory under Business Arising, d).

**Moved and Seconded** by Kathleen S. and Jim M. that the Committee approve the agenda as amended.

**Carried**

**2. Presentations**

None.

**3. Public Participation**

None.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

Amendments to Minutes - Ted W. was not present at the May meeting, so his name needs to be removed. Councillor Epp's name needs an E.

**Moved and Seconded** by Councillor Epp and Shannon C. that the Committee approve the minutes of the Healthy Community Advisory Select Committee meeting held on May 28, 2024 as amended.

**Carried**

**5. Receipt of Minutes**

**a) Public Works and Protective Services Committee, June 10, 2024**

**Moved and Seconded** by Jim M. and Kathleen S. that the Committee receive the minutes of the Public Works and Protective Services Committee, June 10, 2024.

**6. Business Arising from the Minutes**

**a) Accessibility Committee**

Jim M. submitted an article to the Muse updating the community on current issues. Regarding

Metchosin, signage and parking are major accessibility issues, with the Pioneer Museum and Old Barn Books standing out as needing help. There is another meeting tomorrow, and Jim M. will report back when he hears of any developments. Shari R. enquired with District staff and was informed that the District is currently working on the legislative requirements, and we should know by fall or early spring how accessibility will be handled at the District level. One District representative and one member of the community will be asked to join the regional committee.

**b) Dark Sky**

Ted W. has discussed the application with District staff and various Councillors. Looking for a motion to send it to Council. Shannon C. asked what the cost is per year - Ted W., there will be an annual membership fee. No demand on staff time at present, but maybe in the future. The application usually takes two years. Jim M. asked what Metchosin actually gets out of this, as we are already doing most of these things. Ted W. - we get international recognition, increased public awareness, and when we have this in place our ability to manage development is improved. It is like a public declaration. Councillor Epp does not feel an official designation is necessary, and the money could be spent differently. Shari R. - according to the information provided, it looks like there is significant admin associated with the next steps, and that should be clearly stated in the proposal package. Kathleen S. - is it free to get approval from RAS? Ted W. - yes, but they are not offering standards right now. Kathleen S. - and who takes the light measurements? Ted W. confirmed it would be a volunteer. Kathleen S. suggested that a volunteer group gets started now, ahead of the application, to see how well it goes.

**Moved** by Ted W. that the Committee send the Dark Sky Proposal to Council for approval. No second. Motion fails.

Sarah would like to know how the designation has benefitted other communities. Shari would like to know how much money those communities spend maintaining their dark sky status, and how much staff time.

**c) Committee Priorities Discussion**

Councillor Epp noted that the CAO is looking into different structures for the advisory committees in the fall, and that we should wait to commit to priorities until then, as well may be given specific objectives then.

**d) Business Directory**

A version already exists at [www.metchosinonline.com](http://www.metchosinonline.com). Shannon to reach out to Larry Moss, the website creator, to see if it could be moved/linked to the District website? Possibly the link could be shared via the Muse.

**7. Reports**

**a) Councillor Epp**

Firehall Feasibility Study is now posted; the Parisian Cafe and Garage Sale were great despite the weather. The renaming of the Old School has been postponed. The gym is rented for Sept/Oct, for \$30k by Election Canada. True Line Contracting has volunteered to help with accessible parking at the Community House and will be working with the CAO to move forward. Jim M. noted that they had previously donated 6k to the Old School Museum. Plan is complete for the crosswalk at Galloping Goose crossing at Matheson Lake. Potential new schedule for advisory committees for Fall - there are big issues around staff time.

**b) Fire Chief**

Shari R. relayed from Chief Dunlop that the Poverty Reduction project is still doing public engagement, recently had a session with 19 participants. Recent census data shows 27% of Metchosin falls into financial poverty (there are other kinds too).

The Chief will be away for the month of July. There is a new fire prevention officer who has been hired at the Hall. Disaster risk reduction ongoing, Naloxone training at Beecher Bay which was well received.

**c) Seniors Information Resource Centre (SIRC) Liaison**

New hire is fitting in well, transportation possibilities now via LA Limo and via Pearson College bus who could help. Parisian Cafe was great. They are taking minutes via AI now - 22 pages, condensed to 1.5 pages. Very succinct. Gourmet raffle tickets are now being sold. Only 12 containers of soup left, almost all gone out to seniors. Was going to wait until fall to make more but may need to have one sooner.

**d) Poverty Subcommittee**

Under Fire Chief's report.

**e) Health and Safety Subcommittee**

Under Fire Chief's report.

**8. Correspondence**

None.

**9. Other Business**

**a) Metchosin Village Square**

Shannon C. gave an update on her group's activity, how they presented to Council the previous week on their latest proposal for a gathering space in the courtyard of the Old School and answered some questions around scheduling and scope of the project.

**b) Recreation**

Recent discussion between the Chair and CAO brought recreation up and looking at how recreation ties into Healthy Communities. Discussion on adding recreation to HCASC priorities as it is intrinsic to health and bringing people together to recreate together.

**c) Summer Meeting Schedule**

No meeting will happen this summer.

**10. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date**

Adjourned at 6:35pm. Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 24 at 4:30 p.m.