

HOWE ISLAND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors
30 September 2013

1 The meeting was called to order at 7: 00 pm by Kim Nossal.

In attendance:

Kim Nossal, Gary Hall, Jim Taugher, Jim Mills, Brian Humphrys, Doug Harpell

Absent: Ed Beseau, Austin Page

2 The agenda was approved.

3 The minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 22 August 2013, were approved.

The minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, 22 August 2013, were approved.

4 There was no business arising from the minutes of these meetings.

5 The treasurer reported that the balance as of today was \$2,926.68. Gary Hall also noted that the HIRA mailbox has been used more frequently for delivery of cheques and a note of appreciation for the work of the group.

6 Kim Nossal reported that the current paid membership total is 100. This is down from a previous high of about 130, but an increase from last year.

7 The County Official Plan was discussed. The Plan first draft was presented at an Open House meeting 6 September 2013. Brian Humphrys, and others, commented on the report at this meeting. The County planner has said that a revised Official Plan will be produced which will reflect comments and suggestions that have been received. HIRA (Brian) will review and comment on this revised document when it is received.

Ferry issues were discussed. The Foot ferry continues to receive maintenance on electrical and drive train systems.

The County ferry will be replaced by the Quinte-Loyalist ferry for the 10 October to 21 October period. The communication from Paul Charbonneau leaves some questions regarding the schedule (“30 minute schedule” but “on the hour”) and the capacity (13 tons) to carry heavy trucks or equipment. HIRA (Jim Mills) will write to Paul to seek clarification and share any response received. Jim Mills will also begin preparation for a follow-up survey of Islanders regarding current ferry service. This survey will not take place until after the Transportation Study has been received and the County ferry service outage is complete. The last survey was done in January of 2007; much has changed since then.

8 County Council, at a special meeting, has approved purchase of a replacement fire pumper truck for the one that failed mandatory testing recently. This replacement also requires testing and hopefully will be on the island, available for duty, in the next few weeks.

9 The Board discussed the HIRA web site and the email notification system currently in place. The web site is out of date and HIRA needs some volunteer with expertise to update the site. Members who wish to receive email notifications of “breaking news”, events and web site updates must use the contact info on the web site in contact the service provider. Multiple users in a household should be able receive these notifications. If members change their internet service provider, they need to update their contact info with the HIRA site in order to continue to receive notifications. Some service providers, i.e. hotmail, may block notifications.

The website will be updated with recent meeting minutes (Kim Nossal) and current Board member information (Gary Hall).

10 There was no new business.

11 The next meeting of the Board will be 28 October 2013 at 7 p.m. at St. Philomena’s Parish Hall.

The next Council meeting is Tuesday 15 October 2013 at the Howe Island Township office.

12 The meeting was terminated at 8:30 pm.