



Avening Community Centre Board Minutes

June 17, 2021

7:30 p.m.

[Webinar](#)

Members Present: Bill Hewitt (Chair), Karen Cubitt (Treasurer), Clare Oster (Booking Agent), Lorie Awender, Councillor John Lamers, Melanie Walters, Sara Hershoff, and Tina Stephens.

Members Absent: Gary Dzeoba, Jennifer Whitley, Ed Stephens, and Monica Norris.

Staff Present: Cayla Reimer, Committee Coordinator.

1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Chair, Bill Hewitt welcomed the group and brought the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and provided a land acknowledgement along with a [short video](#).

2. Approval of [Agenda](#)

Resolution:

Moved by Melanie Walters, seconded by Tina Stephens, Be It Resolved that the Avening Community Centre Board hereby approve the Agenda dated June 17, 2021 as presented.

Motion Carried.

3. Disclosure of disqualifying interest and the nature thereof

Sara declared a disqualifying interest in item 8.1 Concerts as she earns revenue from the events.

4. Approval of [Minutes](#) – May 20, 2021

Resolution:

Moved by Melanie Walters, seconded by Councillor John Lamers, Be It Resolved that the Avening Community Centre Board hereby approve the Minutes dated May 20, 2021 as presented.

Motion Carried.

5. Business arising from the Previous Meeting

5.1 Small Halls, AODA, and Moving Forward

Chair, Bill Hewitt provided a brief update on the Hall Board Chairs discussion (attached) held June 02, 2021.

5.2 Fundraising Sub-Committee Update

Chair, Bill Hewitt informed the Board that he has been in communication with the fundraising committee and is looking forward to the first meeting in the summer months.

Bill informed the Board that more members are welcome to join if there is an interest.

Karen Cubitt volunteered to join the sub-committee, and Sara is happy to participate as required.

6. Rental Update

Booking Agent, Clare Oster informed the Board that there has been a tentative wedding rental scheduled for September.

Bill Hewitt will communicate with Community Culture and Tourism Coordinator Amanda Murray regarding re-opening procedures and protocols.

Clare has delivered the letters to the Farmers Market to allow them to change the sign as needed.

7. Treasurers Report

Treasurer, Karen Cubitt provided a brief verbal report including a bank balance as of May 31, 2021 of \$81,316.76. Home Hardware invoice and stamp reimbursements have been paid in conjunction with the 2021 Budget.

8. New Business

8.1 Concerts

Sara Hershoff provided information on four (4) potential concerts to begin in November and would like direction from the Board on moving forward in conjunction with the Health Unit and provincial guidelines.

The Board discussed the potential concerts and volunteer comfort levels moving forward.

Sara abstained from the vote.

Resolution:

Moved by Councillor John Lamers, seconded by Tina Stephens, Be It Resolved That the Avening Community Centre Board hereby approve tentatively booking four concert dates for November 2021 in conjunction with and pending provincial and Health Unit guidelines, restrictions, and protocols.

Motion Carried.

9. Next Meeting – Thursday July 22, 2021 at 7:30p.m.

10. Adjournment

Resolution:

Moved by Melanie Walters, Be It Resolved that the Avening Community Centre Board Meeting be adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Motion Carried.

Date Minutes Approved: July 22, 2021

Bill Hewitt, Chair

Cayla Reimer, Committee Coordinator



All Hall Board Chairs Notes

June 02, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Webinar

Members Present: Bill Hewitt (Avening), Jennifer Jansen (Dunedin), Jason Whyte (Nottawa), Gordon Kemp & Jim Campbell (Duntroon), Chris Vanderkruys (Brentwood), Marianne Buie & Bill Keith (Sunnidale).

Council: Mayor Doug Measures

Staff Present: CAO, John Ferguson; General Manager of Parks, Culture and Recreation, Terry Vachon; and Committee Coordinator, Cayla Reimer.

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order by the General Manager of Parks, Culture and Recreation, Terry Vachon at 7:03p.m. Terry provided background information on the proposed discussion and introduced the Mayor and new CAO.

Terry informed those present that this is an informal meeting requested and led by the Chairs.

2. Small Halls AODA Renovations

Duntroon Hall Chair, Gordon Kemp provided a brief background on the request to meet and the associated questions submitted from the Duntroon Hall Board to the Township regarding Hall accessibility and associated renovations (attached).

Gord noted that the Duntroon Hall Board is currently seeking a second opinion on the Burnsides report as it relates to the Duntroon Hall.

The Chairs would like to better understand the position of staff and Council as it relates to the process moving forward.

Mayor Measures ensured the Chairs that is a very good question which has not yet been directly asked of Council, therefore; there is no collectively formed and formal answer, however; in casual discussion amongst members, there is a communal understanding that the Halls are an integral part of the communities of Clearview Township as they are distinctive buildings with history, culture, and memories that make Clearview the Township it is. Mayor Measures stressed the importance of having these conversations at each hall to better understand each individual Hall Board's thoughts, opinions, and decisions to assist Council in creating a realistic and wholesome decision moving forward. The Hall Board reports that Terry Vachon is preparing to present to Council will be formed in conjunction with the Hall Boards input to better represent each Hall.

Gord inquired as to the municipality's ability to lobby the government towards reducing the requirements or extend the 2025 deadline. Mayor Measures provided background on legislation and the municipality's attempts to discuss the matter further with Minister Cho, to which no clear answers have been received.

Terry informed the Chairs that during the presentations the Parks, Culture, and Recreation Department gained a deeper understanding of the legislation and principal concept driving the AODA 2025 change throughout the process - creating a more inclusive environment for all who live in or access the community.

Avening Hall Chair, Bill Hewitt informed the Chairs that the Avening Hall is grateful for the presentations to which a fundraising subcommittee has been formed in hopes of moving forward in a timely manner. Bill discussed the importance of the Halls, the heritage, and the importance of creating accessible facilities. Bill reiterated that the Avening Hall is looking forward to seeing the process come to fruition.

Gord discussed the impending debt load for Hall Board Members and volunteers to consider moving forward and would like to better understand a realistic budget in which each Hall can truthfully plan for potential accessible renovations.

Mayor Measures discussed the initial Council contribution percentages outlined in the Parks, Culture, and Recreation Department presentations and believes more discussion from the Boards and further information on each Hall's community's interest and abilities of community fundraising to better calculate a realistic contribution. Brentwood Hall Board Member, Chris Vanderkruys discussed the importance of the Halls and the debt associated with operating recreational facilities and programs annually and believes constituents would not be displeased to channel funds to the Halls.

CAO, John Ferguson provided information that was presented to him while he was briefed on the topic and provided background information on his experience with Hall Boards, community, and volunteers and the importance of each.

Terry described the process in obtaining the dollar amounts and the standards (Building Code standards and FADS) used across all halls as outlined in the Burnside's Report. Terry informed the Chairs that the dollar amount has been set at the high end to better prepare the Halls, volunteers, and community. Terry informed the Chairs that both groups (Boards and Township) can work together to reduce the provided estimated costs.

The group discussed reserve funding and the possibility of increasing contributions to the reserves to assist in alleviating the debt load. The Mayor discussed the lack of additional grants/funding from provincial and federal governments to meet the AODA 2025, and the associated ways in which governments assist communities through funding and grant opportunities (poorer communities often receive more funding, Clearview is in good financial standing and is often overlooked when compared to less fortunate municipalities).

The Mayor reiterated the option to sell to a new incorporated Board and discussed the similarities between Clearview and Oro-Medonte in terms of Community Halls and how the Halls are independently owned, operated, and receive a municipal grant each year to assist in operational costs.

Gord discussed the hesitance of creating a new incorporated Board as they hear the struggles from Singhampton. Township staff discussed the option of Boards presenting Council with a dollar figure amount for possible annual grant funding options that may allow Halls to move forward with the incorporated option.

Avening Hall Chair, Bill Hewitt discussed the Avening Hall proposed renovations, the townships healthy tax base, increased building in the Avening area, and the original intention of these Halls being gifted to the communities that will require update and renovation and restated the importance of moving forward in a timely manner.

Nottawa Hall Board Chair, Jason Whyte informed the group that the conversations in Nottawa are different from ones being presented and the realization of the Nottawa community's lack of support and funding to further commit to an additional debt load for the Nottawa Memorial Community Hall.

Dunedin Hall Chair, Jennifer Jansen shared the results of the Dunedin Hall survey and the community's interest in keeping the hall and attending the events/activities, however; the survey revealed there is a hefty lack of those wishing to volunteer at the hall in any capacity.

CAO, John Ferguson provided information on reinvigorating volunteerism in the communities and assured the Chairs that there are supports in creating a volunteer base and growth.

Sunnidale Board member, Marianne Buie shared the concern of diminishing interest of Hall Board volunteers due to the pandemic. Terry and the Parks, Culture, and Recreation Department are optimistic that people will want to get out of the house as evident at the re-openings of Clearview Farmers Markets. Marianne would like to better understand the order and process in moving forward with the proposed renovations (which hall first, all at once, etc). The Mayor informed the Chairs the process will see Terry provide individual hall reports to Council, at that point Council will begin discussions, however; the Mayor would like to see information from treasury in how the Township can finance such debt in conjunction with other budgeted items and recommendations to move forward.

Terry informed the Chairs that he is hopeful to bring individual reports to Council in June and would like to see Council receive all six (6) individually and then begin to discuss a plan to move forward with the expertise of township staff (planning, building, etc.).

Staff informed the Chairs to continue to discuss and ask questions as the process moves forward to ensure the right recommendations are being brought to Council.

Terry further detailed that the reports will contain the Hall Boards suggestions and desires for their halls – hall Boards feedback, preferred options, negotiated options, etc.

Terry provided additional information on the Dunedin Hall and process as it relates to the hall and the Noisy river as outlined by the NVCA and Burnsides additional assessments.

Terry is waiting to receive information from Nottawa, Dunedin and Duntroon Hall Boards to prepare the associated reports.

Marianne discussed the importance of hiring and supporting local contractors, however; the rules and regulations relating to municipal projects need to follow the procurement and tendering processes. The only way to circumnavigate these legislated methods is to become an independent/incorporated Board. Chair, Bill Keith informed those present that the process needs to move forward and would like to see the tax base assist the Halls through this project.

Duntroon Board member, Jim Campbell requested information on buying the Hall, completing the work, and selling it back to the Township. Staff has not confirmed it as a viable option yet and may be presented as an option to which Terry will further investigate the legal and financial implications of the proposed option.

3. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the Hall Board Chairs Meeting hereby adjourned at 8:41 p.m.