

ACADIA FIRST NATION
CHIEF AND COUNCIL MEETING
HALIFAX LAKEVIEW INN
FEBRUARY 25, 2014
PUBLIC MINUTES

PRESENT:

COUNCILLOR DARLENE COULTON

COUNCILLOR ANDREW FRANCIS

COUNCILLOR TOM PICTOU

COUNCILLOR CHARMAINE STEVENS

COUNCILLOR MIKE PAUL

COUNCILLOR JEFF PURDY

REGRETS: CHIEF DEBORAH ROBINSON
COUNCILLOR DEBBIE WENTZELL

OPENING PRAYER: DARLENE COULTON

February 11, 2014, minutes reviewed. Location and attendance needed to be changed. Motion by Councillor Andrew Francis to accept the minutes were seconded by Councillor Tom Pictou. All in favour – minutes approved subject to changes.

A band member met with the council and made a presentation on housing. The various plans are to be costed by Jim and the information provided to council for their consideration. The band member is to contact Lisa Francis regarding potential loan funding for a business operation.

Bruce Clarke attended to the meeting to provide an update on current legal files. A question and answer period followed.

There was a discussion held regarding the Recreation Committee program for the AFN. A recreation committee has been established for the Shelburne area with the membership being established of Shelburne and Council representation. The budget was established for this recreation committee taking account current recreation committee budgets. The recreation committee guidelines need to be reviewed with the various committees so as to provide for consistency and clarity.

Amanda Lloyd is to set up electronic reporting for the various recreation committees to provide for more ease of recording and reporting.

Travel policy discussion was held regarding the place of origin for travel purposes for staff. It was decided that the band office would be the starting point and the ends point would be the location of the work/meeting.

An individual travel claim was reviewed and approved.

There was a discussion that when the AFN enters into a contract with a major supplier of goods or services we should attempt to negotiate group rates for AFN members as well at that time.

The decision was reached to have a community gathering this year which will focus on a family fun day theme. A notice is to be put in the monthly newsletter to seek out volunteers from each of the communities for this committee.

Housing for the upcoming fiscal year was discussed. Two new units will be built, subject to funding, - one in Gold River and one in Yarmouth. Housing will be addressed based on the housing list, availability and funding.

A band member request for a washer was denied.

Two band member requests for housing were reviewed and the band members' name will be added to the housing list.

A request for an internship was able to be addressed due to the lack of suitable opportunities within the AFN at this time.

An extension that was previously approved but pending funding was discussed. Jim Pictou is to provide a quote for Council to consider.

A band member request to have soffit repaired was referred to Jim Pictou to address.

A request to attend a gaming conference was reviewed but not approved at this time.

Andrew is to review the need for support for a band member and report back to the Council at the next meeting.

Summer student employment was discussed. The program is to focus on university students as a first priority. DFO opportunities are to be followed up regarding potential summer student employment opportunities. Summer student employment numbers are to be prepared for council to review and once reviewed the summer student employment plan will be established.

A band member request for assistance to pay a power bill was not approved.

The section 95 to be built in Gold River is to be costed on the basis of AFN built or a T&C home. The costs are to be provided to the council for decision.

A band member request to have a door fixed was approved for Jim Pictou to have completed. The other request submitted will be addressed by Social Assistance as it fits within the program.

Price increase for Ed Rose was reviewed and approved as submitted. There had been no increase for the past seven years.

The St. FX Aboriginal Society request for donation was reviewed. Approval of \$500.00.

The three options for the changes to the Gold River were discussed. Jim Pictou was requested to provide costing for the three options and present it to Gaming Commission. Jim is to be invited to discuss at an upcoming council meeting.

The housing report submitted by Jim Pictou and Marie falls was reviewed.

The coffee and soft drink proposals are to be presented to council for review and decision at the next Council meeting. The soft drink representative is to be invited to present to the council in the future.

A band member request for housing repairs and home care was to be followed up by Charmaine.

The council approved the construction of a deck for a band member. Jim Pictou to arrange.

Two band member requests for a stove were not approved.

A band member request to have the AFN pay her power bill was not approved.

A request to have a sentencing circle was approved. Andrew to respond to the requester.

A BCR is to be drafted to ban an individual from the AFN reserves.

Two carpenters are writing their Red Seal carpenter exams.

Council pays are set to occur on the 1st and 15th of every month. Direct deposit to be reviewed for all staff so as to avoid future cheque delivery issues.

A request for materials for a ramp for medical reasons was reviewed and approved. Mike Paul to follow up.

A band member request for mortgage assistance was not approved. The member's name will be added to the AFN housing list.

Gold River notified the Council that it would be organizing a bingo trip for its community members to attend an AFN bingo. Cost of only the bus transportation to be provided from the individual community Rec Funds. The other AFN communities are to work together with Gold River to co-ordinate and organize the one-day AFN bingo trip.

A band member was approved for a house this year.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: Yarmouth

March 11, 2014