

Halifax Community Investment Fund Society
8 July 2013
Meeting Minutes
George Dixon Centre

Present: Craig Walkington, Michelle Strum, Bryan Darrell, Carl Gannon, Melinda Daye.

Absent: Linda Mantley and Paul O'Hara

Guests: Dr. Margaret Casey (North End Community Health Clinic and Rev. Rhonda Britton (Cornwallis Street Baptist Church)

Call to Order: 5:37pm

Agenda Approval: Moved / Seconded by Bryan / Melinda to accept the agenda as tabled. Carried.

Approval of Minutes From 3 June 2013 Meeting: Moved / Seconded by Carl / Bryan to approve the minutes of the 3 June 2013 meeting as tabled. Carried.

Presentation from North Central Community Centre (NCCC): In accordance with the motion passed at the 29 October 2012 HCIF meeting where \$25,000 would be provided to the NCCC to fund the development of a business plan to acquire the St. Patrick's-Alexandra School for a community centre on the stipulation that certain conditions be met, Dr Margaret Casey and Rev. Rhonda Britton presented an update on the project to the HCIF. The three conditions that were stipulated by the HCIF Board were:

- a. The NCCC had to be properly organized and registered as a legal entity.
- b. The NCCC had to conduct wide community consultation to solicit input from as many groups and organizations in the area to ensure that no group would emerge in the future claiming that they were not consulted.
- c. The NCCC had to be unified and represent the three organizations interested in the site.

Dr. Casey and Rev. Britton outlined the efforts of the NCCC's community consultations and informed the HCIF Board that the NCCC was legally established under the Registry of Joint Stock with the Province of Nova Scotia. The presentation satisfied the above noted conditions.

Moved / Seconded by Melinda / Craig that having met the three conditions, the HCIF Board approve the release of \$25,000.00 to the NCCC. Carried.

The cheque was issued immediately to the NCCC.

Financial Update: Bryan gave a financial report including a handout that summarized the HCIF financial status. The values of each account are as follows:

Investment Portfolio at ScotiaMcLeod:	\$1,221,912.00
Bank Account at Scotiabank	<u>4,802.97</u>
Total	\$1,247,387.41

Note: On 3 July 2013, \$25,000 was deposited to the bank account of HCIF from the investment account. This is not reflected in the current balance.

Bryan noted that there continues to be a slight decline in value from last month. He said that ScotiaMcLeod has stated that there continues to be a degree of volatility in the market place and they are waiting for this to settle down. He also said that there is some cash in the investment account that can be utilized to take advantage of lower prices.

Pro Bono Will Preparation Program Update: Bryan confirmed that the program is moving forward and an information session was held on Sunday, 23rd June at 1:30 PM at the Cornwallis Street Baptist Church. He said that three potential clients discussed their need for Will Services. He said more informational sessions need to be held over the summer months to provide information to the community, hopefully at the North End Clinic and other suitable venues. He said that he needs the assistance of the HCIF Board to identify the locations. The meetings are most productive when numbers are small. Bryan also outlined some points that have been learned to-date:

- a. Candidates assumed that the lawyers would be recommending to them what and how assets should be distributed.
- b. There is a general misunderstanding about the minimum age of 65 years.
- c. The target area is too tight. The candidates lived in the community and have lived here for years, but not inside the defined target area.
- d. The months of July and August should be spent educating the community on the project, and in September move into the selection process.

Bursary Program Update:

As agreed by electronic vote in June 2013 and to be confirmed at the next meeting, that the HCIF Board had approved an additional bursary in the amount of \$2,500.00 and approved the proposed bursary recipients. The motions were:

Moved / Seconded by Melinda / Bryan to increase the number of bursaries from 10 to 11 requiring an additional \$2,500.00 be allocated to the program. Carried.

Moved / Seconded by Carl / Michelle to approve the following 11 recipients as recommended by the Bursary Selection Committee:

- Rhonda Thompson
- Angelina Carvery
- Taryn Oakley
- Erika Mendes
- Shanelle Howe-Tynes
- Jalana Morton
- Jonathan Diggs
- Travis Emmerson
- Julien Rogers
- Emilie Labrossiere
- Ashton Ross *

* - Still awaiting acceptance letter from NSCC Waterfront Campus.

Motion Carried.

Directors' Insurance Update: Michelle said she was in the process of completing an application form and needed Craig's assistance for some information. Craig said he would meet with Michelle to complete the form.

HCIF Website Update: Deferred

Board Revitalization – Part 3:

Bryan provided some background information on the HCIF. He said that in consultation with the Greater Halifax Partnership the HCIF Board developed five focus areas (or "Five Pillars") as follows:

Youth, Education, Seniors, Neighbourhood, and Community.

He said that the Vision and Mission developed by the initial group were key as it defined the pillars driving the project. The term "Community" was defined as the geographical space in which we live, and "Neighbourhood" was defined as the people who occupy that space. During the past seven years, the HCIF Board has moved a long way toward the realization of the Five Pillars as follows:

Youth – A self-improvement program was developed that helped one community resident develop goals and move in a different direction.

Education – An annual bursary program of 10 to 12 bursaries of \$2,500.00 each has been established and running for five years that addresses the community.

Seniors – Working with local law firms, a Pro Bono Wills program was established two years ago that helped one individual and the program is currently being managed that will address the needs of more seniors.

Neighbourhood – The HCIF Board is actively engaged with the NCCC in acquiring the St. Patrick's-Alexandra School site, and if successful will have a profound impact on the development of the community.

Community – This pillar is currently under development.

Proposed Next Steps:

1. The HCIF Board now needs to publicize what it has done in the community.
2. The HCIF Board needs to work with HRM Councillors, the local MLA and MP to recognize the achievements of the HCIF's programs.
3. Public exposure will gain interest in the greater community and will serve as a lever for attracting new HCIF Board members.
4. Fresh ideas and renewed energy will flow from an expanded HCIF Board.

Following Bryan's presentation, the HCIF Board discussed the following points:

1. The need to develop and formally approve the HCIF Board Terms of Reference including setting out length of service on the HCIF Board. There was varying opinions on whether it was beneficial to set fixed lengths of service for Directors.
2. There is a need to firstly market and publicize the HCIF Board and its achievements and the need to hire a marketing firm to assist us was discussed. There was some consensus that hiring a firm would be too expensive, but it was left open for further consideration.

Social Gathering:

A special social meeting is scheduled for Bryan's home later in July. (Note: The gathering was held on Wednesday, 24 July 2013).

Next Meeting: Monday, 9 September 2013 at 5:30pm at the George Dixon Centre.

Meeting Adjournment: 7:07pm