

# *Rural Municipality of Belfast (RMB)*

Mayor: Garth Gillis; Chief Administrative Officer: Bob Brooks; *Incorporated 1972*

## **COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE MEETING - MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM – Wood Islands Village – Municipal Office

### ***In Attendance:***

Members:	Councillor Billy Gamble (Chair) (Voting)	
	Councillor Mary Mecher-Carlson (Voting)	
	Deputy Mayor Virginia Cooke (Voting)	
	Mayor Garth Gillis (Ex-officio – Voting)	
Administration:	CAO Bob Brooks (Non-Voting)	Ashley Feschuk (Non-Voting)
Presenters:	Evan Nobles (Ap. #7)	Lisa Hubley (Ap. #14)

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### **Item      Order of Business**

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:00 PM
2. **Covid-19 Restrictions** – per Provincial Covid-19 restrictions: a maximum meeting room limitation of 21 people allowable with 6-foot distancing and masking required.
3. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest** – Do any Committee members in attendance have a conflict of interest with any items on today’s Agenda? There were none.
4. **Approval of Agenda** – one additional item was requested and placed under Item 11.

**Moved** by **Deputy Mayor Cooke** and **seconded** by **Councillor Carlson** to adopt the agenda as amended.

Votes for: 4    Votes against: 0    Result: **Carried Unanimously**

5. **Orientation of Committee Proceedings by CAO** – As a result of the Public Call for Proposals for the 2022/2023 Community Grants Program; RMB received 14 applications. The CAO itemized those applications into a Tally Sheet that shows two previous year history for that organization, the current ask, whether they are a Not-for-profit, and whether they are in compliance with the RMB Grants Bylaw and Policy.

The process for this Committee Meeting involves:

- a. **Public Presentations** (*two requests received*)
- b. **Committee moving In-Camera** (*deliberations closed to the public*)
  - i. **Evaluation/discussion of each separate application**
  - ii. **Deliberations to determine a Recommendation to Council**
- c. **Committee moving out of In-Camera** (*back into a public meeting*)
- d. **Committee moving/approving a Recommendation(s) to Council as to the recommended recipients for the 2022/2023 Community Grants Program.**

6. **Public Presentations to Committee regarding Community Grants (5 minutes per application)** – Two requests were received to present to Committee:

- *Evan Nobles – Belfast Disc Golf – Application #7; and*
- *Lisa Hubley – Sandstone Equestrian Inc. – Application #14.*

The Committee heard both presentations, asked questions of each of the Presenters, and thanked each of them for attending. Both Presenters volunteered to provide additional information if required.

7. **Motion to move In-Camera (deliberations closed to the public):**

**Moved by Mayor Gillis and seconded by Deputy Mayor Cooke for Committee to move In-Camera to evaluate and draft a recommendation(s) for Council consideration of the 2022/2023 Community Grants Program recipients.**

Votes for:  4  Votes against:  0  Result: **Carried Unanimously**

8. **Committee In-Camera Deliberations (no minutes are taken for in-camera deliberations)**

9. **Motion to move Out of In-Camera (back into a public meeting):**

**Moved by Deputy Mayor Cooke and seconded by Mayor Gillis for Committee to move Out of In-Camera to present and move a recommendation(s) for Council consideration of the 2022/2023 Community Grants Program recipients.**

Votes for:  4  Votes against:  0  Result: **Carried Unanimously**

10. **Community Grants Committee - Recommendation to Council:**

**Moved by Councillor Carlson and seconded by Deputy Mayor Cooke that the Community Grants Committee recommends that Council consider and adopt the following recipients/amounts for the 2022/2023 Community Grants Program:**

1) Belfast Rural Fire Department ( <i>Fire Protection Grant</i> )	<b>\$95,000</b>
2) Belfast Rec Centre ( <i>GPEI Rink Grant</i> )	<b>\$8,500</b>
3) Bar Vela ( <i>Community Grant</i> )	<b>\$1,200</b>
4) Belfast Rec Centre ( <i>Automatic Generator</i> ) ( <i>one-time</i> )	<b>\$26,500</b>
5) Belfast Area Watershed Group ( <i>Community Grant</i> )	<b>\$4,100</b>
6) Belfast Days ( <i>Community Grant</i> )	<b>\$3,000</b>
7) Belfast Disc Golf ( <i>Community Grant</i> )	<b>\$1,200</b>
8) Belfast Historical Society ( <i>Community Grant</i> )	<b>\$3,700</b>
9) Belfast Minor Hockey ( <i>Community Grant</i> )	<b>\$3,000</b>
Plus a One-Time Grant of:	<b>\$2,500</b>
10) Pinette Raceway ( <i>Community Grant</i> )	<b>\$2,000</b>
11) Point Prim Lighthouse Society ( <i>Community Grant</i> )	<b>\$3,000</b>
12) WIADC Lighthouse Operations ( <i>Community Grant</i> )	<b>\$3,000</b>
13) WIADC Village Operations ( <i>Community Grant</i> )	<b>\$9,600</b>
14) Sandstone Equestrian Inc. ( <i>Community Grant</i> )	<b><u>\$1,200</u></b>

o **Total funds for 2022/2023 Community Grants Program \$167,500\***

*\* See attached Tally Sheet for Detail.*

Votes for:  4  Votes against:  0  Result: **Carried Unanimously**

11. **Reconsideration of RMB Grants Bylaw and RMB Grants Policy** (as per Item 4 above) – Deputy Mayor Cooke raised the issue, that as our Community Grants Program continues to mature and become more and more popular; it will soon become unsustainable. It was pointed out that the original key intent of this Program (while not stated specifically) was to help Not-for-Profit organizations throughout our Municipality, and to assist them in the betterment of our Municipality. It was suggested that it is time to now limit the scope of the Program to Not-for-Profit Only, before the Program becomes unsustainable. The CAO discussed that the process to make that happen, would require amendments to both Bylaw and Policy documents; that uses the typical amendment process with two public meetings and passage of Council, and that if the process was started in late summer, it could be completed in the fall of 2022. After discussion, Committee made the following additional Recommendation to Council for consideration:

**Additional Recommendation to Council:**

**Moved** by Deputy Mayor Cooke and **seconded** by Mayor Gillis that Council starts the process to reconsider Bylaw 2018-02 (Grants Bylaw), and our Grants Policy, to be in place, prior to the next Community Grants Program in 2023/2024.

Votes for: 4 Votes against: 0 Result: Carried Unanimously

**Note:** Specifics of how the Bylaw and Policy should be changed are not mentioned, as Council will determine the outcomes of the changes (if any), at time of public meetings and reconsideration.

12. **Next Meetings:**
- a. **Regular Council Meeting** – the next regular meeting of Council is scheduled for Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Wood Islands Village – Upstairs Meeting Hall.
  - b. **Community Grants Committee Meeting** – not expected to meet again until some time in late 2022. As a result, the Minutes from this meeting will be scheduled to be approved at the March 16, 2022 Council Meeting.
13. **Adjournment** – as there is no further items for the Agenda, the Chair asked for a Mover to Adjourn the meeting.

**Moved** by Councillor Carlson to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM

Approved on: March 16, 2022

Signature and Seal on file

Chair – Councillor Gamble

Signature and Seal on file

CAO – Bob Brooks

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