

Chestermere Whitecapper Association
Board Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2020

To provide a venue and opportunities for Chestermere and area seniors to gather congenially, to keep in touch with each other and the community through organized social events, activities, informative presentations and entertainment,

To receive information and to have the opportunity for input regarding services that contribute to their quality of life, and

To foster fellowship and friendship which impart the comfort and security of living among helpful caring friends.

1. Call to Order – 1:05 pm, January 21, 2020

2. Certify Quorum:

3. Attendees: Karen Rideout, Pat Shaw, Clare Elsbett, Don Cassidy, Danielle Hagemeyer, Cliff Reinhart, Todd McBride. Regrets: Michael Ball

4. Adoption of Agenda: Adoption moved by Todd, seconded by Don, with additions to New Business: a) Admin position job description, b) Sale of Best Western Hotel, zone change to senior housing and what it means to us, c) Best of Community nomination (do we qualify?). Carried

5. Adoption of Minutes of Last Board Meeting: Adoption moved by Todd, seconded by Cliff, with the inclusion of the name of band, *The Silence Between*, in Section 9b. Carried

6. Financial Report (Pat): Please see attached. Highlights: The Casino account (ATB) is down to \$3500, enough to cover rent for February and March. We are carrying \$30,000 in the Reserve account. Expenses over income are currently at - \$1600.90. (includes Robbie Burns expenses but not income). 2020 Casino funding will not be available until May. Moved by Todd, seconded by Don to accept financial report. Carried.

Moved by Karen and seconded by Danielle that we increase the cost of alcohol drinks to \$4 for regular beer and for wine (5-ounce glass), and to \$5 for dark beer. Pop to remain at \$1. Changes to take effect at the next event. Carried.

There was some discussion around United Way funding and if this was a viable alternative for the Whitecappers. It was decided that a committee to focus on fund raising alternatives should be created. Carried forward to next month.

7. Business arising from last Board meeting and Old Business

Todd reported that he had managed to trap the Haggis for Robbie Burns day and that it awaits in the freezer. No ammunition expense incurred.

8. Committee Reports

a. Activities & Events Reports from December (Karen):

Christmas Dinner: While the food was good the dessert shortage was an issue. There was also some confusion about the caterer's responsibility to do the dishwashing. While the band was good at what they did, their type of music was not fully appropriate for the occasion. There is a tendency for people to socialize rather than listen to the entertainment (perhaps background music on our sound system would be a reasonable alternative to hiring entertainment). The photos with Santa were not as profitable as hoped, perhaps doing a "portrait" photo could be tried in the future. While there were some learning opportunities here it was still an enjoyable event and members seemed to have a good time. The addition of the Grinch and the mistletoe, as well as Santa and his elf added to the fun.

Christmas Caroling with the Chestermere Soundwaves: Enjoyed by approximately 80 people. The food was very good and the music most enjoyable. Kitchen, music and prizes were the work of the Soundwaves and much appreciated. Soundwaves will return in March for St. Patrick's Day.

Lunch and Learn, January 9th, Downsizing. Don took on responsibility as the lead for this event. Volunteers: Brenda Gun, Elaine Cassidy, Todd McBride and Clare E. Attendance was 16. Carolyn Chaudry provided the soup but was not able to attend herself. Funds raised \$42.

Bottle Drive, January 11th. Karen and Lisa once again spearheaded a morning bottle drive drop-off, truck provided courtesy the Chestermere bottle depot. Profit \$317, with \$90 coming as a donation from a member's workplace.

Casino: January 8 & 9. Another successful Casino, good volunteer participation and deemed a fun team building activity by those who participated. Funds will be available after the quarterly accounting in April, payouts expected in May.

b. Bylaw & Policy Committee (Todd): Todd has been able to transfer the by-law and policy files onto his home computer. Work continues on reformatting.

c. Facility Committee (Todd): Todd has removed the lock from the hallway door to the washrooms as there is no longer a need to keep it locked and there was a chance that someone could lock themselves in if it was not removed.

Pat has not received a receipt from the CRCA for the payment of accrued rent; this amount was over \$5000. **Action: Karen** will ask for the receipt at the CRCA office.

Danielle and Karen have assumed the role of bathroom janitors.

Note: the CRCA garbage bins are on the west side of the building. There have been occasions when garbage bags did not go out as people were not aware of this.

The Historical Society of Chestermere is looking for a space to hold their regular meetings. Many of the Society members are also Whitecappers. After discussion it was **moved by Pat and seconded by Todd** that the Historical Society of Chestermere be allowed to hold their regular monthly meetings at the Whitecapper facility on the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month. Carried.

d. Social Media Report (Don):

The digital display is up and running. Currently there are 583 photos running on continuous loop display. As addition photos become available Don will add them to the USB.

We have had 77 likes on Facebook and have 90 followers. Our website received 70 unique hits from points in Canada and the US.

Don continues to update the website often so there is always something fresh and interesting to be found.

e. Member Services Report (Karen): See attached report. We currently have 218 active members: 34 are new members and life memberships now stand at 30.

9. Activities and Events Planning for January/February (Karen)

a. January 28, Robbie Burns Day potluck. Karen will take the lead for this. Todd has bagged the haggis. After much searching Karen has found a piper through the Highland Shop in Calgary. Fee will be \$200. **The line dancers** group will be dancing to Scottish tunes and **Don** will round up a Scottish playlist to run on the sound system during the evening.

b. February 15, Valentine Dance. The band Silence In Between has been booked for the evening and will play from 7 pm to 10 pm. Their fee is \$600. Sonja has made up 75 tickets; sales to members to February 7 after which an invitation will go out to surrounding seniors' groups to purchase tickets. Snacks will be provided at no cost (chips, etc.). New bar prices will be in effect before this event.

c. Lunch and Learn, February. Initially scheduled for February 6th, a request has been made to change this to February 13th. No FCSS response received as yet that we are aware of.

d. Potluck, February 25th. Bingo is scheduled for after the meal. Cards \$5 each, 10 games with one \$10 gift card winner per game. Gift cards will be purchased locally.

e. St. Patrick's Day, March 14. Carol Gardner and her crew will be cooking up an Irish stew for this event. The Soundwaves will entertain with Irish tunes. There will be a charge at the door.

f. A short brain-storming session turned up ideas for new events or fund-raising projects. Some ideas were a Summer Picnic; having skills learning sessions where people could come and learn the art of pie making, quilting, etc, from Whitecapper members; seniors' swap meet to exchange/ purchase aids to living equipment; garage/rummage sale to run at the same time as the May community parade of garage sales. Vendors could be charged for a table or by commission. **Action: Todd** to research what items our seniors might have to swap or sell and to determine interest in such an event.

An additional suggestion was to create a Men's Shed (or a She Shed) program where the fellows could get together to work on projects to benefit the community. **Action: Don** will investigate how the Men's Shed program works in other areas and report back.

10. Other New Business

a. There seems to be some confusion on the part of membership about what the admin position duties encompass. A number of members continue to give our admin person direction contrary to what she has been directed to do by the Board. Also, complaints and other matters which should be directed to the Board are being directed to admin to correct. **Action: Karen** will meet with Sonja in the coming week to create a proper job description which we can then take to the membership.

b. There was a brief discussion regarding the sale of the Best Western hotel. The City is looking at re-zoning the property with intent to allow the building to become a seniors' care facility. Other than reports in the Anchor we do not have a lot of information, however, interested parties may attend the Public Hearing February 4th when a presentation will be made to the City Council.

c. Clare provided a brief summary of the Mayor's Task Force presentations made at the Committee of the Whole on January 14th. The Task Force volunteers were formed into three groups tasked with investigating needs and resources in the following areas in our community: seniors' housing/care facility needs, seniors' health care (public and private), and supports and services available to and required for seniors to help them remain living active, fulfilling lives in their own homes and own community. With the Task Force research and reports now done the City will take on the task of carrying the work forward.

As a side note the Coalition for Seniors is a separate entity operating apart from the Task Force and the City Council. The Coalition has undertaken the compilation of a Seniors Service Directory. One of the Task Force findings was that, while we have many services currently available, few people know what they are or how to contact the providers. The Directory is seen as a way to help seniors and their families navigate the systems in place.

d. Karen McKee has left some forms on the table at the entrance for people to complete to nominate individuals/groups/business for "Best of Community" awards. **Karen** will mention the forms at the potluck and people can fill in as they see fit.

e. Update on Fall grant Application: While we have not received formal notification about our application for this grant, a listing provided to the community by the City does not show the Whitecapper's as successful applicant.

11. Question Period - No further discussion

12. Next Meeting January 21, 2019

Adjournment: Danielle moved to adjourn; Todd seconded. Carried. Adjourned at 3 pm