

LMVBA meeting minutes: Feb 3, 2016 7:00PM

Members in attendance: Kirby Kazeil, Ross McKee, Leila Flavell, Garry Flavell, Chad Cardiff, Dave Degenstien, Marilyn Craswell, Melanie Mooney, Kelly Butz. Invited guests: Marilyn Labatt, Andy Kuderewko, Olga Thompson.

1. Meeting was called to order at 7 pm
2. Agenda was approved
3. Minutes of last meeting were not available as last meeting was the LMVBA / Yancoal information session at which no regular meeting business was dealt with.
4. Financial update
5. Work in progress updates: (1) Kirby indicated that the Yancoal / LMVBA business information registration sheet has been completed with the input and cooperation of Robin Kusch at Yancoal. (2) A brief discussion was had on the great success of the LMVBA Christmas on Mainstreet event held on December 2, 2015 in Strasbourg. Mention was made of the great weather, entertainment, and success of the extended business hours part of the promotion. (3) it was noted that \$3,000 in LMVBA Bucks were sold during the pre-Christmas period, about \$2,000 more than 'normal'. The bucks were advertised in the newspaper during late November and early December. (3) Ross McKee brought along the promotional sign he had made (design provided by Kirby) for the little house on main street. It will be erected on the building soon. There was also a discussion about changing the theme of the decorations to the 'spring' theme, in honour of the recent mild weather.

6. New Business and roundtable discussion

Three ratepayers from the RM of McKillop were in attendance at the meeting as invited guests. Although all three are members of the RM Council, they were at the meeting as ratepayers, not representatives of the RM. There was a frank and open discussion about the work of the Havelock Special Projects Committee (HSPC) group that hosted a public meeting in Earl Grey on January 28. It was noted that the group seems to be taking an 'anti-development' stand on the proposed Yancoal potash mine east of Strasbourg, and to that end is spreading doubt, and misinformation about the project's possible negative environmental and community infrastructure impacts. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the LMVBA should become active in promoting complete understanding of the project through the provincial government's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). To that end, it was agreed that the LMVBA would send a letter to all municipal governments within a 20 mile radius of the proposed mine site, urging them to study the EIA and make a public statement on their position regarding the development.

7. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Next meeting: March 2, 2016