

**Before we begin our meeting, we would like to acknowledge that Stewiacke is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.**

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**1. Opening and Welcome**

- 1.1. Present/Regrets – Regrets from Darren Schriver, Susan Creelman, David Phillips. Present – Interim CAO Kevin Matheson acting Chair, Julie Hay, Marla Taylor, Brian Harrison, Jeff Gray, Mark Laughlin, Todd Fleck, Greg Connell
- 1.2. Approve Agenda - concurred

**2. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

- 2.1. March 024 – Motion to approve – Mark Laughlin and Jeff Gray – Carried.

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

- 3.1. Council update – Kevin updated Committee re planning activities including rezone at 12 Main St and 1<sup>st</sup> reading re building height requirements. Municipal election in Stewiacke will allow voting both online and by paper ballot; returning officer appointed and was someone outside town boundaries. Operating budget to go to Council in April. The Province has updated the service exchange agreement with municipalities and we are no longer responsible for housing authorities and corrections. This will be a significant saving to the town. Still working on gathering more information on well water system. CAO recruitment ongoing. Using FACET and they are creating a short list and interviews will be late April. Hoping to have in place end May.
- 3.2. Transportation Study/Community Transit update – Darren sent word the delay re CTCL having staffing issues.
- 3.3 - Town map and tourism brochures – Susan met with staff Erin and Ben.
- 3.4 – TCPEP update – David – sent regrets
- 3.5 – Strategic planning session April 18<sup>th</sup> re Marketing Levy, DMO update – Mark updated Committee of the upcoming meetings.

**4. New Business**

- 4.1 - Agenda format, acknowledgement and motions. - deferred
- 4.2 – Advise businesses re Google maps – Idea to share on town newsletters.

**5. Member Reports** - Marla had busy winter and upcoming summer season looks busy. Brian shared some knowledge re Google Maps. Todd and Dojo group received a grant via town to replace some mats; Mark advised flights at airport almost back to 2019 levels and projections for a good tourist season. Hotel Assoc. having a hiring fair April 16<sup>th</sup>. Hops are growing. Julie indicated summer

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employment grants for VIC have been applied for and not yet received. Greg and Mastodon Ridge getting ready for summer. He has joined the Recreation Committee as Vice Chair and they will be overseeing events this including Rhubarb Festival, Town Days, Christmas in Stewiacke. This should be a more organized approach to events in Stewiacke.

6. **Dates to Remember – Strategic planning session April 18<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM @ Red Wagon, Mastodon Ridge; Dinner Theatre – April 26-28, 2024 @ Community Centre**
7. **Next Meeting – May 2, 2024 @ 9:00 AM**
8. **Adjournment @ 9:25**

**Recorded by Susan Creelman**