



**Gesgapegiag Band Council Minutes
March 20th, 2023
Place: Galgoasiet Conference Room
101 Perron Boulevard
Time 9:00 a.m.**

Attendance: Chief John Martin-present

Councillor Aaron Condo-Zoom
Councillor Danny Condo Jr.- present, left for bus run at 10:04 a.m.,
returned at 10:23 a.m.
Councillor Bernard Jerome Sr.-present
Councillor Dorothy Gedeon-present
Councillor Christianne Jerome-Bernard-attending meeting with FNFA
Councillor Tammy Martin-absent
Carolyn Larocque, Executive Assistant-present
Clement Bernard, Director General-present

Meeting called to order at 9:55 a.m.

1. Approval of the agenda with added items on Varia

- Drugs in Gesgapegiag

Proposed by Councillor Dorothy Gedeon
Seconded by Councillor Aaron Condo
Motion carried: 2023-03-20

2. Approval of minutes dated March 13th, 2023

Chief and Council adopts the following motion to approve the minutes dated March 13th, 2023 with corrections.

Proposed by Councillor Dorothy Gedeon
Seconded by Councillor Aaron Condo
Motion Carried: 2023-03-20

3. Business Arising from minutes

- Policing Services, update on negotiations.

4. Decision Note: Q3

Tabled until the next meeting

5. Decision Note: Economic Development

The Director of Economic Development presented the Aboriginal Initiatives Fund Report of 2021-2022 Activities/Assistance for Economic Development Project. Chief and Council adopts the following motion to approve the Activity Report for 2021-2022 to Secretariat aux Affaires for the 3-year project to release the final payment of \$67,500.00.

Proposed by Councillor Danny Condo Jr.
Seconded by Councillor Bernard Jerome Sr.
Motion Carried: 2023-03-20

6. BCR #1676 Fisheries Agreement

Chief and Council adopts the following motion to sign the Joint Fisheries Agreement with the two communities; Gesgapegiag and Gespeg.

Proposed by Councillor Bernard Jerome Sr.
Seconded by Councillor Dorothy Gedeon
Motion Carried: 2023-03-20

7. Bordner Ladner and Gervais' legal recommendations on a private unit

Chief and Council discussed the unit. A letter will be sent to the individual to set up a meeting with the Director General.

8. Maple Syrup Project

Tabled until Monday, March 27th, 2023

9. Requests

- Donation for Autism Awareness

A memo will be sent to departments for donations to support the cause. Chief and Council will donate as well.

- Home ownership

More information is needed regarding the history of the unit.

10. Portfolio Updates

Councillor Christianne Jerome-Bernard

- Attending First Nations Finance Authority all week

Councillor Dorothy Gedeon

- Attended regular Council meeting;
- Attended special meeting regarding the estuary agreement;
- Met with housing department;
- Met with individuals on housing issues.

11. DG's Update

- Prep meeting with Chief and Council for the Estuary agreement;
- Met with the provincial government on the estuary agreement;
- Met regarding the Relais de La Cache, strongly recommend to form a Board consisting of Economic Development, Finances and Portfolio Councillors to operate Relais de La Cache;
- Dealt with some HR issues;
- Met with Economic Development to develop a business plan for the Relais de la Cache regarding the extension of the Cache to build a conference room;
- Also suggested to set up a cash in/out method ;
- Met with BLG regarding a private unit.

Chief and Council agrees to establish a Board consisting of the Director of Tourism, Tourism Coordinator, Financial Controller and a Council member to oversee the Relais de la Cache.

12. Chief's Update

March 13-16, 2023

- Regular council meeting;
- Meeting with community member with concerns over substance abuse in the community;
- Meeting with Quebec and portfolio councillors regarding the extension of the estuary agreement and consultation dollars needed;
- Special council meeting with MMBC representative regarding council position on requirements to be met by any further business proposals to be brought forward;

- Meeting with Mr. Troy Jerome regarding the Inherent Rights Strategy in the matter of securing increased access to wood volumes. Strategies discussed with the approach to Quebec;
- Reached out to Andrea Bear Nicholas on the languages file being worked that has stagnated, options discussed. Coordination of a conference call with Professor McQuinn from University of Southern Maine;
- Conference call with Professor McQuinn and Councillor Bernard Jerome collaborating on the language file, very promising avenue that will be pursued. Currently teaching a course that would meet the objective of what we are pursuing as a potential training;
- Meeting with Forestry engineer Ken Arsenault to discuss the volume of wood being requested. Initiative will be carried out to solidify the support from the forestry companies and research requested on their volumes of wood;
- Drafting letter to the mayors of the region regarding support for the volumes of wood being requested from the Ministry of Natural Resources. Letters finalized and sent;
- Special council meeting regarding the Estuary Agreement extension and consultation;
- Presentation to council from the Atlantic Salmon Foundation on initiatives and potential funding for specific projects and expertise;
- Meeting with consultation unit from MMS, regarding project in Grand Pabos, some environmental questions remain unanswered, Vacation lots issued by Quebec. action proposed to seek a court declaration, also information on a barge that has sunk in the American banks which may pose a threat to the aquatic fauna and general environment.

13. Varia

13.1 Drugs situation in Gesgapegiag

Chief and Council discussed the drug situation in Gesgapegiag. A meeting will be scheduled with various departments to start the discussion on the drug use and the influx of the drugs in our community.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Proposed by Councillor Aaron Condo
Seconded by Councillor Danny Condo Jr.
Motion carried: 2023-03-20