



Gesgapegiag Band Council Minutes
Date: October 7th, 2005
Place: Galgoasiet Conference Room
Time: 9:00 A.M.

Present: Chief John Martin, Councillors: Clement Bernard, Charlie Caplin, Donald Caplin, Danny Condo Jr., Dorothy Gedeon, Anthony Jerome, Jeremy Jerome and Armand Martin

Minute Taker: Carolyn Larocque

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted with the following items added under varia.

- Franklin Condo-request for funds
- Pass Ports
- Highway 132 Urbanization
- Elders
- GCDC-Reporting portfolios
- Portfolio reporting-Open Council Meetings

Proposed by: Councillor Armand Martin
Seconded by: Councillor Anthony Jerome

Motion Carried.

10-07-05/743/BC

2. Reading and Approval of Minutes

The September 8th, 2005 minutes were not available, to be brought at the next council meeting for reading and approval.

A) Chief John Martin read the minutes of September 15th, 2005.

A motion was passed to accept the minutes dated September 15th, 2005 with some additions and minor corrections.

Proposed by: Councillor Armand Martin
Seconded by: Councillor Danny Condo Jr.
Motion Carried.
10-07-05/744/BC

B) Chief John Martin read the minutes of September 20th, 2005

A motion was passed to accept the minutes dated September 20th, 2005 with some additions and minor corrections.

Proposed by: Councillor Dorothy Gedeon
Seconded by: Councillor Armand Martin
Motion Carried.
10-07-05/745/BC

3. A) Business Arising from September 15th, 2005 minutes

19. 1) Letter: Request for cupboards from Elizabeth Jerome: Clement Bernard did a follow up on this file.

19. 2) Letter of Complaint from Charlene Burnsed and Leona Bernard: Donald Caplin and Clement Bernard will be setting up a meeting with the Chief of Police to discuss this issue.

24. Bus Drivers: A meeting is set for the 19th of October 2005 to go over the issue of bus replacement drivers.

31. Ministerial Guarantee for David Condo: A follow up was done by Clement Bernard.

3. B) Business Arising from September 20th, 2005 minutes

Ministerial Guarantee-Clement Bernard will be addressing this issue in his update.

4. Chief's Up-date: Ending September to the first week of October

Before reading his update he reviewed the Hunting Regulations and the consequences. A PowerPoint presentation will be set up with the Hunting Committee to go over the hunting guidelines and consequences.

Have had follow-up meetings with the director of operations regarding

- Housing default
- Accountant's recommendations
- Other issues-administrative
- Hunting

Forestry

Follow-up meetings with Mr. Lemerle regarding the discussions with Temrex on the Forestry Management Agreement with MRN.

Economic Development

Follow-up meetings with the Economic Development Officer and also Forestry regarding the moose study by PESCA, a concern over time delays/stagnation.

Health

Follow-up meeting with Interim Health Director, Victoria Labillois regarding follow-up on requests from Health Canada. All requests have been followed up regarding reports financial and activity wise.

Follow-up on the healing center project on Lake St. Ann. May be sourcing out the file to acquire required funding and actualization of the healing center.

Society Cascapedia

Coordinated meeting for the Council and Society Migmag Board of Directors. Met with Mr. Gauthier, the Society's general manager and the deputy minister Mr. George Arsenault. Our position of maintaining the rivers status as it is was made clear. We further stated that we wanted the river to remain the same for future generations. Another point was that any additional rods to be added to the river should be coming to the band and we maintain this position until Migmag rods equals the number of non-native rods on the river. Other issues were in the manner in which the water was used by the private clubs versus the Migmag rods. It is pointed out to the ADM that the spirit and the intent of the band at the time of negotiation that we would be on the river in the same capacity as the camps. This needs to be corrected. Further to this that when the camps are available for sale the band is not advised or consulted, and we request that we must be in order to achieve parity with the camps on the number of camps or rods.

It was pointed out to the minister that our discussions were non-prejudicial to our rights and these were not discussions about our rights but fairness. We did however also remind the ADM that proper consultation was an important point in the recent Haida Taku decision at the Supreme Court decision.

Elders

I did meet with Betty Martin as requested by Council about finding out what the elders preferred, a bus or an elder's lodge? Mrs. Martin did meet with the elders and they strongly agree that an elders lodge would be a lot more useful to them than a bus. This

would allow them to have activities all year long. Councillor Armand Martin expressed how pleased he was that John did meet with Mrs. Martin to find out what they wanted. The next step would be to appoint someone from Health Services that could take on this file.

Policing

I did do a follow-up regarding the recognition and capacity of Mr. Maurice Tasse with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Security, Mr. Paul Girard. His study will be recognized and he has no problems with him doing the work.

Just a reminder that the study was not intended for the government but for the band council so as to evaluate the policing service and see what areas could be improved to better serve the community.

Housing

Have met with the coordinator to coordinate the Adhoc committee and the housing authority meetings that will be coming next week.

Other meetings with community members on different issues like businesses and hunting.

5. Director of Operations' Update:

- Ministerial Guarantee for David Condo-the procedure for Ministerial Guarantees is for the grantee to transfer their land to the Band until such time the loan is paid off and then transferred back to them. Since the Department of Indian Affairs no longer has the budget to survey lands, it is the responsibility of the individual to hire a surveyor before the Department of Indian Affairs in Ottawa will issue a Certificate of Possession. Mr. Condo purchased a parcel of land from Mrs. Jerome. This has yet to be done. Mr. Condo was informed of this and knows what has to be done.
- The Ministerial Guarantee for Gregory Condo and Cheryl Martin-the loan was in default-a meeting was set up with the Bank and the loan was updated by the Band, then the Bank issued a letter stating that the Band are co-owners so that the house could be insured. The housing unit is insured under the Band until Ministerial Guarantee is under Cheryl Martin's name. The Bank and the Department of Indian Affairs issued the Ministerial Guarantee to Cheryl Martin. A meeting was held with myself, Gregory Condo and Cheryl Martin, an agreement was made and a letter was drawn up stating that Gregory Condo is relinquishing the house to Cheryl Martin and both parties signed and Charlie Caplin signed as a witness.
- Dog Catcher-There has been problems with the poor condition of the cage. There have been investments made in the past with repairs to the cage. Right now the dogcatcher is keeping the dogs in a cage at his house. Council felt that it would be a waste to invest more dollars to equip the individual's yard in case he decides not to continue doing this. It was suggested to repair the building and put the gates back on

at the Warehouse and to restructure the dog cage. It was also suggested that someone be in charge of unlocking the gate in the morning and locking it in the evening.

- Public Works planning for the winter-the truck is being repaired, salt and sand have been ordered and will be stored at a building that Luc Martin is proposing to build for 6 to 7 thousand dollars. Issue of salt-check with DIA for an environmental assessment.
- Departmental Planning should be done for Public Work-annual planning for all other departments as well.
- Police Station Update-45% of the interior is completed, the brickwork will start on Monday. According to Luc Martin and Construction LFG construction is on schedule. However the furnishings were not included in the budget, although they could be included in the total cost of the construction.
- Issue of payments to Supervisors-A council member expressed his concerns regarding the payments that are being issued to an employee that is currently working on the housing project and receiving a supplement payment to supervise on a weekly basis. As an employee and a supervisor of various projects he feels that fair treatment should be given to him as well and be compensated in the same amount. After hearing both parties express themselves on this issue, Chief and council decided to have a round table discussion and due to conflict of interest, all parties involved were excused from the discussion. The Director of Operations also wanted direction from Chief and Council so that this could be dealt with as an administrative issue and not a political issue.

Donald Caplin joined the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

6. Micmac Organics/Economic Development

A Power Point presentation was made by Christianne Bernard and Ana Mattos on Migmag Organics detailing all the work that has been done so far and also the financial activities.

Surveys were done in Listuguj and Gesgapegiag by two of our band members early in 2004 that showed 90% would buy organic fruits and vegetables.

An amount of \$18,648 has been taken from Economic Development department to cover the cost of this year's operations that SAA and DIA are not covering. Christianne Bernard is requesting for the Band to incur this amount so that it can be put back into the Economic Development department. An amount of \$36,293 is also requested for this fiscal year and also \$24,620 for the next fiscal year.

It was suggested to ask the Coop to make the baskets that will be used to sell the products and in turn sell to the consumer therefore lowering the cost of the project by approximately \$10,000 for the cost of the baskets.

The Micmac Organic farm will employ 2 individuals full time as well as some seasonal employees possibly through funds from GCDC.

It was also suggested to hire seasonal employees through other programs such as the disability program.

Ana and Christianne were commended on their presentation and the management of the project.

7. Dog Catcher

This was dealt with in the Director of Operations Update.

8. BCR's - Band Transfers-2 reinstatements

The Membership Clerk presented 2 requests for band transfers for Agnes Moisan (Gedeon) and Erika Gedeon-Marchand to be reinstated back into our Band Membership; they are currently registered with the Listuguj Band.

A motion was passed to accept the reinstatement of Agnes Moisan nee Gedeon back into the Gesgapegiag Band Membership.

Proposed by: Councillor Donald Caplin
Seconded by: Councillor Clement Bernard
Motion Carried.
10-07-05/746/Band Transfer

A motion was passed to accept the reinstatement of Erika-Gedeon-Marchand back into the Gesgapegiag Band Membership.

Proposed by: Councillor Clement Bernard
Seconded by: Councillor Danny Condo Jr.
Motion Carried.
10-07-05/747/Band Transfer

9. Response from the Municipality of Maria

A letter was sent to Chief John Martin from they Mayor of Maria, Michelle Landry on the 16th of September, 2005 along with a Resolution dated September 9th, 2005 stating that the Municipality of Maria Council do not agree to have the land on Droken Road that was purchased by the Band for the agricultural purposes, specifically for Micmac Organics, be an addition to the Gesgapegiag Reserve Territory.

Chief John Martin will write a letter to the Department of Indian Affairs stating that our intentions to turn this land into reserve land still remains.

10. Signing of Health Canada Agreement

An agreement was signed for the following programs: Tobacco Control Strategy, Oral Health Strategy-Children's Oral Health Initiative and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

11. Review audit recommendations

No meeting has taken place regarding the audit recommendations. A meeting will have to be set up with the Finance Committee, consisting of Clement Bernard, Anthony Jerome, Armand Martin, John Martin and Francine Ross. Clem will coordinate the meeting.

12. Public Works

This was dealt with in the Director of Operations Update

13. Housing Update by Charlie Caplin

Charlie Caplin submitted a detailed report on RRAP/Repairs for 2005. The report included names and the work that was done at each housing unit.

Mr. Caplin is requesting to keep 2 workers that are on the RRAP/Repair Crew for an extra two weeks to repair the inside of Pamela Jerome and Scott Thomas' house once the foundation is work has been done. Mr. Caplin is also asking for a small budget for the finish work in the amount of \$3,000.00

A motion was passed to grant Mr. Caplin 2 workers and a budget of \$3,000.00 to cover the cost of material for the repairs.

Proposed by: Councillor Anthony Jerome

Seconded by: Councillor Donald Caplin

Motion Carried.

10-07-05/748/Housing Repairs

14. Police Station Update

This was dealt with in the Director of Operations Update.

15. Forestry Update

A presentation was made by David Caplin Jr. concerning the finances of the Nipugtugewag project. They are presently experiencing financial difficulties due to a number of issues. The Band feels that it is entirely up to the crew to make it work.

16. Membership Policy

The Membership Clerk and the Portfolio Councillor Dorothy Gedeon had some questions they wanted Chief and Council to clarify before they are able to continue with the drafting of the policy. It was pointed out that the clarifications were the reason the portfolio and membership clerk were asked to look at the questions.

17. Discussions

Departmental planning-Annual planning will be done for all departments for the new fiscal year and for this current fiscal year. Two separate presentations will be done at the same time and not separately. This will be presented to the Management team at the next meeting that is scheduled to be held on the 18th of October 2005.

Next Open Council Meeting-The Audit presentation will be done, date yet to be determined.

Upcoming calendar- Clem and John will have a meeting to discuss upcoming meetings and prepare calendar of upcoming meetings.

18. Varia

Request from Franklin Condo

Franklin Condo is requesting for financial assistance to pay for his son's inscription allowing him to play at an elite level, in the Triple A hockey program, the amount that he is requesting is \$1,750.00. After much discussion it was decided to assist Tommy because no one has made it to that level.

A motion was passed to pay 75% of the tuition that is \$1,350.00.

Proposed by: Councillor Anthony Jerome
Seconded by: Councillor Jeremy Jerome

Motion Carried.
10-07-05/749/ Donations

A second motion was passed to mandate Dorothy Gedeon to fundraise in the Community for the 25% that is \$400.00. Any additional dollars raised will go towards Tommy and his family.

Proposed by: Councillor Armand Martin
Seconded by: Councillor Donald Caplin

Motion Carried.
10-07-05/750/ Donations

Passports

Councillor Dorothy Gedeon brought up the issue of requiring passports to cross the boarder. Chief John Martin will check with the Atlantic Policy Congress for any updates, presently this issue is in the talking stage.

Highway 132 Urbanization

There is a budget of 1.2 million available to fix the highway and the enteries to the reserve at the expense of Minister of Transport. Construction for the first phase will take place in 2006 and the second phase will take place in 2007.

A motion was passed to mandate Genivar to work on this file with the Gesgapegiag Band.

Proposed by: Councillor Danny Condo Jr.
Seconded by: Councillor Donald Caplin

Motion Carried.
10-07-05/751/ Urbanization

Industrial Park

Chief John Martin updated Council regarding the Industrial Park. A response from DIA stated that funds through Marshall could be made available for this project next year.

Elders Video Conferencing

Video Conferencing between Gesgapegiag and Listuguj. This service can be used if available. Portfolio Councillor Jeremy Jerome was approached by Nancy Doddridge

regarding this subject. Jeremy will inform Nancy Doddridge to bring this up with Victoria Labillois; she might be able to set it up through Health Services.

GCDC

Portfolio Councillor Anthony Jerome has a finance meeting on the 13th of October with Christina Burnsed, Connie Martin and Meredith Bernard to determine what financial state GCDC is in. He has also helped out Justin and Meredith during the week with the Welfare Injection reports.

Concerns over the deficit in this program that are incurred by the GCDC were expressed by Council. The Band absorbs the deficit and GCDC's funding for the next fiscal year is not affected. If there is a surplus in the program, it is taken back by the funding agency and disbursed to other bands.

**Meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.
Proposed by: Councillor Armand Martin
Seconded by: Councillor Danny Condo Jr.
Motion Carried
10-07-05/752/BC**

Acceptance of minutes dated October 7th, 2005 as presented with corrections and additions.

Proposed by: Councillor Anthony Jerome
Seconded by: Councillor Donald Caplin
Motion Carried.

Date of Acceptance: November 7th, 2005

Certified true copy of the original.

Signature: _____
Director of Operations

Signature: _____
Chief