



Matachewan First Nation

Box 160, Matachewan ON P0K 1M0

Meeting Details	Community Meeting
Date and Time	Saturday August 17, 2024 @ 1:00 PM
Location	MFN Log Building
Chairperson (Chief)	Tommy Fox
Council Present	Chief Alex Batisse, Tommy Fox, Elenore Hendrix, Lilianne Jobson, Adrian Boucher Clara Hanson, Melanie Boucher
Council on Zoom	
Council Regrets	Rachel Batisse, Stan Fox
Recorder	Joshua Birimcombe – Director of Finance and Administration (DoFA) Delta Flood – Secretary/Receptionist/Indian Registration Clerk

Item #1 – Opening Regards	
Lead(s):	Tommy Fox
Discussion:	Opening Prayer by Lorena McKay

Item #2 – Call to Order	
Discussion	As the internet service is done, it was discussed to keep on with the meeting or reschedule. As there were many members in attendance, it was decided to continue with the meeting, share the minutes, then have another meeting in the future.
Outcome:	That Chief and Council duly convene this Community Meeting held on Saturday, August 17, 2024, at 1:30 PM

Item #3 – Approval of Agenda	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. That the Agenda for the Community Meeting held on Saturday, August 17, 2024, be approved as circulated
Outcome:	<p>MOTION #2024-08-17-01 MOTION That the Agenda for the Community Meeting held on Saturday, August 17, 2024, be approved as circulated MOTIONED by Clara Hanson SECONDED by Elenore Hendrix All in Favour MOTION CARRIED</p>



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Item #4 – New Band Office

Discussion:

Requesting Community feedback on new band office and if there is anything else members would like to see in the new band office keeping in mind that we also have our new Health Centre.

Discussions regarding the need for a new band office and razing of old band office were had.

- Issues are mostly not being able to control temperatures between floors. (eg – bottom floor freezing in the summer and having to wear thick clothes while workers upstairs are working in too hot temperatures – even with trying to fix it many times over the years); there is mold and flooding that happens years – may be toxic to staff; dead mice in walls; thin walls that are not private; and accessibility issues especially with the staircase. The building was originally built improperly with the rafters for first and second floors being swapped, and the foundation pads broke prior to installation. The building would have been condemned before opening if not on the First Nation.
- There has been no health inspections done, but DoFA will get one done. It is unsure if building will need to be raised or can be used for other things. It may need to be renovated either way.

Questions/Comments:

- Would like to know cost of the new band office, and how much will be federal funding/grants. – DoFA stated he will follow up with a budget, but we will hopefully receive 50-75% in grant.
- Is funding on hold due to Audits being late? – DoFA has spoken with funding agencies, and they are aware of the reasons for non-reporting and have released any holds.
- Questions regarding number of quotes and decision to hire companies. – Only the Project Managing company has been hired – no tenders have been put out yet. Wabun assisted in going through tenders for Project Managers. Council signed a BCR selecting Colliers, but none stated they were part of that decision.
- We need to stop relying on Wabun. Band Member inquired if we had reached out to Ontario First Nation Technical Services. – C&C were unsure but kept the company name for future reference.
- Band Members would like to see reports including ground studies and water tables. – There has been a ground study done and DoFA will try to find the report for the next meeting.
- Costs, budgeting, and possibility of repurposing the current band office were recurring concerns.
- Concern about the septic area as it already had to be built up to make it currently work.

Suggestions to current plan:

- need a mapping room and would like to see a historical room/library
- DoFa will put potential labels on offices so members can get a better sense of the space.
- Better draft with measurements and outside locations is needed.

Members wanted to ensure project is put on hold until further consultation is completed.



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Item #5 – Street Names and Numbers

Discussion: Requesting Community feedback on street names and numbers for houses on-reserve. If something bad should happen and we need emergency services come to our FN they need to know where to go. Emergency numbers should be placed for all houses. Possibly use those numbers in lieu of house numbers.

A Councillor suggested to change names of streets to recognize Treaty Signors, and a Community Member suggested also using some original inhabitants of the area. Another Community member stated that it should be the people that live on the community who decide what the street names should be.

Item #6 – Matachewan First Nation Sign

Discussion: Requesting Community feedback on sign for Matachewan First Nation at Reserve entrance.

Mel – Lazare signs – got language for Turtle Lake – some members said keep Logo, Welcome, Treaty 9, Res 72 - Turtle Lake Lake

There was thought of changing our name back to our original name. One option was to keep Matachewan but add Turtle Lake. Madajawan had two translations given – ‘at the falls’ and ‘where the waters meet’. The physical community on the First Nation was considered Turtle Lake but we were still from Matachewan First Nation.

Discussions regarding posting where our traditional territory begins along highways was discussed. Mainstream needs to know that we share common areas along edges of territories. They also discussed the historical process for using our territories for hunting and such.

Item #7 – Health Centre Name

Discussion: Request for Community feedback on the naming of the Health Centre. The names shared were:

- Jigibiig (Along the Shore) Health Centre
- Mashkiki (Medicine) Centre
- The Eagle Centre (written in Ojibwa)

Some alternatives shared at the meeting:

- Combine Mashkiki and Eagle
- Mino Bmadziwin (Good life)
- Michel Batisse Medical Centre (First Chief of Matachewan First Nation)
- The name should just be in Ojibwa.

It was noted that there will be a mention to Agnico Eagle for their donation – as well as all donators somewhere.

There will possibly be an poll to make the final decision.



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Item #8 – Landfill Closure

Lead(s):

Request for community feedback on placement of disposal/waste bins upon completion of the landfill decommissioning.

- After some discussion it seemed to be best to use the current landfill site for the waste bin install.
- A hole can be dug for carcasses every hunting season, then filled over. A new hole and location can be dug every year. As long as only carcasses are dumped in the hole, the environmentalists state it's okay.
- To avoid dumping by non-on-community members, we will look into having someone working at the dump with a gate and/or camera. The person working there would also be able to ensure people are placing their refuse in the proper bins.

Discussion:

Item #9 – Member Discussions

Discussion:

The Chief gave an update that the road completed to separation lake and that we will need to come together as a community and find out what they [our community] want done with it. Also, the ATR [Addition to Reservation] is a process and is still going. Hopefully will have a meeting soon about what will happen in Timmins.

- A Community Member asked if there was a final cost on the road? DoFA will bring it to next meeting.
- A Councillor stated that her son-in-law can do surveys for us at no/low cost. She will resubmit his name to DoFA.

Item #10 – Adjournment

Outcome:

That Chief and Council adjourn this Community Meeting at 3:45 PM