

Morris & Area Foundation Incorporated  
Organization Meeting  
May 1, 2008  
12:00 Noon

The newly formed committee for the establishment of a Morris & surrounding area foundation met for the first time on May 1, 2008 at Santa Lucia at 12 noon.

In Attendance: Bruce Gregory, Egon Grossman, Jeff Samson, Ernie Buhler, Midge Anderson

Midge discussed the concept of a community foundation and circulated examples of other Manitoba foundations bylaws for "homework reading". She informed the committee that there is already a 'shell' foundation corporation existing.

The 'Morris & Area Foundation Incorporated' was established in 2001, but went no further than that.

When asked the question, all those in attendance were in agreement to get the existing foundation up and running.

Bruce Gregory advised the committee that the corporation is still valid, but needs a charitable number now. This could take up to 6 months to complete. Midge offered to get started on this. The next step( and before the charitable number is given) will be to prepare the organizational/procedural bylaws for the corporation. Midge to contact the Winnipeg Foundation for a proforma bylaw that we can use. Bruce offered to draft a bylaw for the corporation.

There was discussion on the benefits of engaging the Town and the RM as board members. In the examples circulated, they have the mayor or reeve as part of the appointment committee. All in attendance agreed that they should be on the board.

There was further discussion on how many municipalities or areas should we incorporate into the board. Suggestions were:

Town of Morris

RM of Morris

RM of Montcalm

Village of St Jean only

RM of De Salaberry

10 Mile radius surrounding the Town and the RM of Morris

The pros and cons of these areas were discussed. No decision to be made until the bylaws have been drafted.

Ernie Buhler advised that the Thomas Sill Foundation has a one time matching grant for new foundations. He will get further information on the requirements for the grant.

Advertising will have to be done to encourage donations.

Letters should go to the Town and the RM of Morris advising them of this committee and its intent to establish a foundation.

Jeff Samson will prepare some posters to let the community know about the proposed foundation. It was suggested that the information be provided at the 125th anniversary weekend.

Currently there are three member names on the Morris & Area Foundation corporation. Bruce Gregory to advise how these names can be amended and who makes new appointments.

The next meeting will be for the preparation and review of the bylaws. No date has been set.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm