

**SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
RE: BARRINGTON BAY TRAIL PUBLIC MEETING**

April 2, 2013

The meeting was called to order by the Warden at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Warden Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson
- Deputy Warden Donna LeBlanc-Messenger
- Councillor Jody Crook
- Councillor George El-Jakl
- Councillor Shaun Hatfield

- Brian Holland, Municipal Clerk

In addition:

- Sherman Embree, Secretary/Treasurer, Woodland Multi Use Trail Association
- Sgt. M.J. Deluco, Barrington RCMP Detachment
- Joel Goreham, President, Shelburne County ATV Association
- 23 members of public

The public were welcomed to the meeting and Council members were introduced to the public.

Mr. Embree was asked to explain the operation of the Trails Association in Shelburne County, and to explain the development of trails over the past several years. Mr. Embree indicated that of the 93 kilometers of former CNR railway right of way there are now 44 kilometers developed as multi use trails. A majority of these 44 kilometers has been developed in the Municipality of Barrington. There are now 18 wardens who are members of the Trail Association who are monitoring the multi use trails in the County. The Trails Association has the continuous support of the Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments across the County. Development of these trails contributes to the recreation and business opportunities of residents and visitors to the community.

The Warden then asked for the public members attending to make comments and suggestions. The following comments were offered by various public members in attendance:

- Sandy Clark a resident of Barrington Passage provided a written presentation to councillors regarding the protection of the “walking trail” for continued use of walking, biking and non vehicular use only. His presentation was circulated to members of Council only.
- During Mr. Clark’s presentation and the presentation of others there was much concern expressed for the use of the trail and the damage that may be done to it by allowing vehicular traffic on it on a regular basis.
- It was also indicated that the sidewalk in Barrington Passage is not the same experience as walking the Barrington Bay Trail. The trail is much closer to nature and a much more peaceful and relaxing experience.
- The sentiment was expressed that the trail is much like a town park in the middle of Barrington Passage.

- It was also implied that the trail would be used by motorized traffic for a one year trial period only, but that once the trail is open for a trial period it will be continued to be open and very difficult to stop vehicular traffic on it afterwards.
- The multi purpose trail is not opposed as much as the location of the trail.
- Various other members of the public also expressed different concerns in relation to the use of the trail. Public members expressed concerns both for the use of the trail as a multi purpose trail and opposition to the use of the Barrington Bay Trail as a multi purpose trail.
- It was suggested that an alternative route might be the best solution for motorized vehicles.
- After some discussion it was also indicated that an alternative use would be far more expensive and the cost of acquiring land for an alternative multi purpose trail and the cost of the related trail construction would be prohibitive.
- It was also suggested that the power lines or the shoulder of the road may be used for a multi purpose trail. In both cases it was indicated that neither of these is permissible or practical.

The Warden thanked members of the public for making their presentations and expressing their concerns to Council.

Having heard no further presentations, the Warden declared the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Warden

Secretary for the Meeting

On website April 3, 2013.