



Municipality of the District of Argyle

Item: Hospital Foundation board members

Date: January 8, 2019

VISION

We see Argyle as home to a healthy and thriving rural population. Our municipality promotes and supports economic and social opportunities for the region and engages in the active expression of our unique Acadian heritage. We are a place of choice for rural living and are widely recognized for our warm hospitality and joie de vivre. Surrounded by fresh air and cool ocean breezes, we work and play in the great outdoors. People choose to live in Argyle because of our commitment to each other, to our community and to our neighbors. Argyle is a place we are proud to call home.

Background:

The Yarmouth Hospital Foundation typically asks for approval from Council for their board members. Argyle is represented by two members. These positions are not appointed by Council but by the Board. We are asked to accept (not approve) their nominations.

The President of the Foundation, Don Cook, contacted the Municipal Clerk to put forward two names – Marc d'Entremont and Neil LeBlanc.

The Yarmouth Hospital Foundation Bylaws indicate that one member shall be nominated by the Argyle Council. Although, this has not been what the Foundation has done, as the members above are already board members.

It would be my understanding that the reason why Argyle Council is asked to nominate is to ensure that there is regional representation from our municipality. Not seeing any resumes or any additional information and knowing they have already been appointed to the board, it would be unwise to approve or deny the selection.

The Yarmouth Hospital Foundation would be required to have insurance on its directors in the case of error or intentional neglect. Our insurance would not cover such an appointment unless it was an official council subcommittee, which it is not.

The Town of Yarmouth asked the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation to remove the requirement to nominate, likely to disassociate the workings of Council with the workings of the charitable association. The Municipality of Yarmouth retains that requirement

MGA considerations:

None

CAO's Recommendation:

Recommend that Council endorse the recommendations as submitted and approved by the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation Board of Directors.

I would also recommend that the practice to nominate members from Council on non-profit boards be curtailed, for insurance and other purposes. The responsibility to select competent members of the Boards are in the hands of the non-profit organizations, and we should take a step back from that. I would recommend that the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation amend its bylaws to remove the nomination requirement from the Municipal Council, and instead include a provision that at least one of its members must reside in the Municipality of Argyle. That way, you still have representation from the region without having to inject ourselves in the decision.

Suggested motion:

Move we endorse the recommendations of Neil LeBlanc and Marc d'Entremont, as submitted and approved by the Board of Directors of the Yarmouth Hospital Foundation

Move that the Board amend it's bylaws to remove the requirement that a board member be nominated, appointed or approved by Argyle Council, and that, in its place, include a provision that at least one member of its Board must be a resident of the Municipality of the District of Argyle for appropriate regional perspective.