

Mayor's Blog - September 2016

September 6

The first meeting in September always seems to me to be a "new beginning" - perhaps because of the "school marm" that remains in me. Council received information regarding delays in the remaining fire tower necessary for the new communications system for the County. Hopefully problems will soon be solved and the much needed improved system will be up and running. Don Hilborn attended on behalf of Thistle Theatre explaining their plans to apply for grant money to install a lift in the Embro Town Hall. Accessibility has long been an issue and the proposed equipment, along with some improvements to the washroom, will help make the building useable by many more people.

Plans are underway to again take Council meetings to schools in Zorra. Last year's visits were an opportunity for students to learn about municipal government first hand and their participation was well planned and most helpful. Watch for news of special guests we hope will be able to attend.

Progress is being made with the Waud collection to be housed at the Beachville Museum and the display should be ready for public viewing early next year.

Zero Waste work continues and groups in the County are experimenting with accomplishing this goal at their events. Which organization in Zorra will be leading the way for us? It is not a difficult undertaking - more a change of attitude and there are people in the County ready to assist groups. It is a matter of looking at using recyclable products, asking participants to take materials home (so they will reconsider materials used another year), collecting food waste for composting, etc. Will one of our schools take up the challenge as I know they are getting very close to the target now?

September 14

County Council is reviewing the Woodland Conservation bylaws. These have caused many problems and misunderstandings over the past few years. I am asking you to contact the County for a paper copy of proposed changes (or access the material by computer) and study carefully the material proposed. Public meetings will be planned in the near future and we need everyone's assistance to get things right this time. Your comments, questions and concerns will be helpful and much appreciated.