

**BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
TUESDAY, MARCH 03, 2009 - UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY - 8:00 A.M.**

WEBSITE: www.brucemineschamber.com
Email: brucemineschamber@sympatico.ca

Present:

Brian Torrance - Torrance Custom Interiors
Merin Smith – Retired Teacher & Special Projects Co-Ordinator
Lorne Barlow – Barlow Chimney Sweeps
Bill Gunn – Fine Pine Things
Jean Hershey – Rydal Bank Historical Society + Library
Elaine Switzman – Algoma District & Social Services
Cheryl O’Hara – Mary Kay Cosmetics + Royal Canadian Legion
Larry Peterson - Peterson & Peterson Law Firm
Carol Rickard – The Pizza Lady
Rick Klazinga – Algoma Kitchen & Bath
Martin Odber – Computer Technician
Sherri Foster – Fosters Freshmart
Marla McPhee – M & J Hair Boutique

Regrets - Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse

Guests: - Cathy Auger
- Victor Kelly -
- Robert Young – Algoma Boat Charters

Call to Order: - Brian Torrance called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Past Minutes - Motion: Larry Peterson + Jean Hershey – that the minutes of February 03, 2009 be adopted as presented - carried

Treasurer’s Report: - Motion - Larry Peterson + Bill Gunn – that the Treasurers Report be adopted as presented - carried

Insurance: - The policy and questionnaire to be reviewed.

French Fryer: - no report

Chamber Website: -

Pat Peterson sent in a report that website development is on going. Alison Cragg has changed the business listing into a tab format for easier searching. Business listing additions to the pop up windows is still under development. By April 01, 2009 only Chamber members will have their pop-up windows completed.

Web Marketing is the next stage

Martin Odber reported that maps of the town have been received and should be completed by the end of March 2009 . It was reported that Pat Peterson had sent emails to the 2 town representatives and to date there has been no response from them.

Membership:

Carol Rickard reported that the Lions Club is interested in becoming a member with Carol Rickard as their representative.

Chamber Brochure

Bill Gunn reported that after the executive meeting it was decided to distribute the balance of the brochures this year – revisit the brochure project in 2010. Brian Torrance reviewed the various options re: the brochure.

It was suggested that an insert on current events for 2009 be added to the existing brochure since the current brochures are somewhat dated.

Four & Friends Art Show & Sale: - no report

Rydal Bank Historical Society:

Jean Hershey reported that Heritage Week was complete. There will be meetings to set up the annual meeting.

Library:

Jean Hershey reported that CEO, Lorelee Gordon, has experience with libraries. Lorelee will take on the computer project. Lorelee has business experience and is committed to the library philosophy.

Town Master Plan –

Brian Torrance spoke with Mayor, Darren Foster recently – there may be a town meeting at the end of March – much depends on government programs

Algoma Kinnewabi Tourist Association

It was reported that we had received our invoice from AKTA for 2009 at the price of \$94.82. Being a member of AKTA is great exposure for the Town as it give the town coverage in their magazine + on their website.

Motion: Larry Peterson + Elaine Switzman – that we renew our membership in AKTRA - carried

Trade Fair –

Elaine reported that the 2009 Trade Fair for Thursday *March 05, 2009* from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. 28 different groups want to participate. Set up will take place Wed. afternoon 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The Lions are providing refreshments. All activities will be held up stairs.

Bruce Mines & District Historical Society

Larry Peterson reported that the Society is applying for their charitable tax status. The RBC donated \$5,000.00 for roof repairs project. The LCBO has a box for Historical for July. I will be recommending the Historical Society become a member of the Chamber.

Film Night

Jean Hershey and Merin Smith reported on Saturday, March 28, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at Lighthouse Lounge – Ken MacDougall will be present as will producer, Anne O'Connor. A reception will take place after the showing. The admission will be donation to the Student Scholarship Committee of Four & Friends Art Show. Minimum of 25 people is needed and would like at least 40 to be present. There will be RSVP requested in order to prepare for the showing.

The evening will consist of introduction + film viewing + reception afterwards. Volunteers are being contacted . Merin Smith has prepared a poster + reminder tickets for distribution.

Citizen of the Year

Larry Peterson reported that Ernie Strum was our 2009 Citizen of the Year held on Friday February 27, 2009 . It was a very successful evening. Larry asked for any suggestions for new Citizens. Jean Hershey thanked Larry Peterson for doing such an in-depth research into the Guest of Honour

Royal Canadian Legion:

Cheryl O'Hara reported that:

Sun. Feb. 15, 2009 – Spaghetti Dinner was successful - Proceeds to go to the Coffee Fund for troops in Afghanistan \$150.00 was raised.

Sun. Feb. 22, 2009 – Veterans Appreciation Dinner,. The meal was very successful – it was sold out.

Sunday March 15, 2009 the Legion will be hold a pancake and sausage brunch at the Legion from 12:00 p .m. to 2:00 p.m. admission \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 8 yrs and under.

Welcome New Comers:

President, Brian Torrance, welcomed to the meeting:
Robert Young – Algoma Boat Charters
Victor Kelly
Cathy Auger – Crystal Heart Ranch

Robert Young is trying to open a charter business rental of small boats. He has a 72 foot Paddle Wheeler + Horse and Buggy. The tour will run between Hilton Beach and Richards Landing. Water tour one way and Buggy back. Cathy Auger will supply the horse and buggy. The Paddle Wheeler, called The River Queen, will carry 100 passengers and is presently down in Ohio.

Email: Algoma.boat.charters@gmail.com

Website: www.algomaboatcharters.com

Martin has been a 30 year friend with Cathy Auger.

Cathy Auger has a petting farm which is also a rescue farm for distressed animals.
Crystal Heart Ranch email: the-earth-mother@hotmail.com The website is being worked on by Martin Odber.

New Business:

Elaine Switzman presented student employment application forms for \$2.00 subsidy through Northern Development and Mines.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. at the Library.

Meeting adjourned at 8: 45 a.m.

Bruce Mines Websites:

Town of Bruce Mines: www.brucemines.ca

Chamber of Commerce: www.brucemineschamber.com

(Note new website name)

Union Library: www.bruceminesandplummerlibrary.ca

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruce_Mines_Ontario

Rydal Bank Historical Society Email: rbhs@live.ca

Bruce Mines & District Historical Society Email: bmd.historicalsociety@gmail.com

Bruce Mines & District Historical Society Blog: