

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, October 06, 2009 – UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY – 8:00 A.M.

WEBSITE: www.brucemineschamber.com

Email: info@brucemineschamber.com

Present:

- * Brian Torrance – Torrance Custom Interiors
- * Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
- * Jean Hershey – Rydal Bank Historical Society & the Library
- * Rick Klasinga – Algoma Kitchen & Bath
- * Cheryl O’Hara – Royal Canadian Legion
- * Larry Peterson – Peterson & Peterson Law Firm
- * Merin Smith
- * Bill Gunn – Fine Pine Things
- * Phil Rouleau – Royal Bank of Canada
- * Carol Rickard – The Pizza Lady
- * Marla McPhee – M & J Hair Boutique

Guests: Mel Baird

Regrets:

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

Mel Baird

- Topic - proposed super school for the area
- SSM is putting up super schools and they are looking at elementary schools. Small individual schools are costly 40 – 70 years old and the maintenance of old schools over 4 years could build new super schools with more elaborate facilities. Schools are being developed for public use in mind.
- Bd of Ed has closed the Spanish elementary school and Iron Bridge elementary school is being considered.
- Bd of Ed. May consider a new elementary school in Bruce Mines. B.M. has the infrastructure for the new school – It is expected that other communities will be lobbying for the new school to be located in their area.
- A new elementary school would be a positive benefit to the Town and Township.
- Bd is considering new smaller schools or a super school.
- Busing is currently in position.
- Mel wants to meet with Mario Turco about this project.
- Mel will get back to the Chamber about his meeting with Mario Turco.

Past Minutes : Motion: Larry Peterson + Phil Rouleau - that the minutes of September 01, 2009 – be adopted as presented – carried

Treasurer’s Report: - Larry Peterson reported that the Chamber is still in the black. Motion Larry Peterson + Marla McPhee that the Treasurer’s Report be adopted as presented.

Insurance: - no report

French Fryer: - Merin prepared the following report:

FALL FAIR FRENCH FRY REPORT

Due to the unbelievable weather, this was a highly successful weekend. The Chamber booth was manned Friday night, Saturday and Sunday for a total of 18 hours.

We sold out of onion rings early in the afternoon on Sunday and out of fries at about 3:30. It was necessary to pick up extra pop and water over the weekend.

We learned that the booth works most efficiently with 6 volunteers and 2 fryers operating at all times.

The following is a short list of improvements we would like to make to the booth

1. Replace the oldest fridge with a newer model
2. Install a roof vent over the fryers.
3. Install hinges on the side panels so that they can easily be opened should the weather be hot.
4. Purchase a professional oil strainer.
5. Repair the serving counter and replace the covering.
6. Purchase a metal tray for the bottom of the bin under the heat lamp
7. Move the heat lamp to the centre of the table.
8. Purchase a new bbq lighter and a spare heat lamp.

Following the event a letter was sent to all volunteers who helped for Canada Day, Opry weekend and the Fall Fair. The booth has been cleaned as have the fryers. The beginning of the next season the fryers will require washing. The inventory has been updated and all items have been stored in the bins, and the 1 new pail of oil is in the small freezer.

The Trailer

Should the Chamber consider purchasing its own trailer since Pat's trailer is now being used 3 times over the summer?

A ramp up to the trailer would be of tremendous use as we now have to lift a pop cooler, fryers, propane tank as well as the rest of the supplies on and off 3 times a year.

Larry Peterson reported that financially this past year of 2009 was a record breaking year for the French fryers.

Jean Hershey reported that the Fall Fair Committee has been successful in revitalizing the Fall Fair and made it a weekend full of activities.

Web Site:

Pat Peterson reported that the Calendar of Events have been updated on the website. Alison Cragg is expected to be at the November meeting.

Algoma Sno-Plan

Pat Peterson reported that the advertisement is done. The Town and the Chamber are sharing the cost of the Banner Heading for Bruce Mines which has been slightly redesigned using keywords i.e. *Explore Bruce Mines* and *"Come as a Tourist, Leave as a Friend"*. The Chamber will be billed for \$100.00

Web Marketing Committee:

Pat Peterson reported that Alison is monitoring Google Analytics as to where the inquiries are coming from. Pat has been taking photos and uploading them to the website.

Web Maps : - no report

Local News Website: - no report

Chamber Photo Contest:

Marla McPhee reported that an advertisement was run in the North Shore Sentinel

Membership: no report

Chamber Brochure: -

Brian and Bill attended the Town meeting. Sara Swain has agreed to sit on the committee. Brian and Bill are attending the Township meeting tomorrow evening.

Four & Friends Art Show & Sale: -

Brian reported that the financial reports are being finalized.

Rydal Bank Historical Society:

-Jean Hershey reported that:

The annual turkey dinner is set for October 12, 2009 – Monday, Thanksgiving Day. Tickets on sale at 2:30 p.m. with sittings at 4:00p.m., 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

November – hope to have a Hunters Ball organized

Library : Jean Hershey reported on the following;

We are fortunate to have a fully accredited library in Town.

Oct. 21st is library week and there will be a book sale at the library.

Prizes for the photo contest are on display at the library.

Town Master Plan: - no report

Brian Torrance spoke with Mayor, Darren Foster briefly and believes a town meeting will be coming up to give a status report.

Town Improvements – no report

Algoma Kinnewabi Tourist Association:

Pat Peterson reported that everything is complete – waiting for the publication to take place

Sault Ste Marie Welcome Magazine. – no report

Trade Fair: - no report

– Elaine Switzman is to put together her final report. Brian will check with Elaine on this project.

Bruce Mines and District Historical Society :

Larry Peterson reported that with Ron Smith back in the area, there are meetings to advance the new roof project. There is urgency with the Board to get the roof.

The Cancer Walk set for Oct. 25 will originate from Museum to Lighthouse Lounge. The Museum will be open to a limited degree so visitors

Lions Club:

Carol Rickard reported that the Lions Club will be holding their Ham and scallop potato supper on Sunday October 25, 2009 at the Bruce Station Hall starting at 6:00 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion:

Cheryl O'Hara reported Halloween Party for Oct. 31st
Euchre every Wed afternoon at 1:00 p.m.

SnoGlyders –

Bill Gunn reported that the Club has approached him about ski trails . Bruce McNeely has kept the Community in Action fully informed on the various activities of the Club.

Community In Action [old report]

Brian Torrance, Merin Smith and Carol Rickard are representing the Chamber. Brian reported that there was a Town Meeting.

Dec. 7th presentation to the Town and Dec. 9th to the Township

If the report is accepted then there could be an application for further funding.

Cruisin Car Show: - no report

Sylvan Circle: - no report

Chamber Link with Elliot Lake – Pat Peterson will follow up on this.

Outdoor Show in Sault Ste. Marie

Pat reported that she spoke with Don Roberts last week. Bruce Bay Cottages did not have the time nor the manpower to attend the show. Apparently the actual event was disorganized and participants pulled out Saturday afternoon.

New Business: -

Marla McPhee reported that the Cancer Walk is Sunday Oct. 25th – registration is from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. leaving from the museum to the Lighthouse Lounge.

Marla McPhee and Cheryl Harvey are organizing a craft sale November 21, 2009 from 10:00 – 4:00 p.m. The Museum will be selling poinsettia and red chili plants.

Would the Chamber like to organize a Christmas Social ??– Marla McPhee and Merin Smith will work on this project.

Bill Gunn reminded the Chamber about the annual donation to the Agricultural Society. Perhaps the Chamber could work out the Agricultural membership.

Bill reported that Thessalon Rod and Gun Club – wild game member on November 28th at the Bruce Station Community Hall. Club is looking for prizes for the bag draw.

Larry raised about the possibility of joining the Soo C of C. – Pat will contact the Soo Chamber about what arrangements can be made.

Next Meeting: Tuesday Nov. 03, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. at the Library.

Adjournment: at 8:55 a.m.