

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, April 5, 2011 – UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY – 8:00 A.M.
WEBSITE: www.brucemineschamber.com
Email: info@brucemineschamber.com

Present:

Brian Torrance – Torrance Custom Interiors
Larry Peterson – Peterson & Peterson Law Firm
Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
Michael Peever – Mae-Ger Treasures
Arlene Rombera
Elaine Switzman Algoma District Services Administration Board
Merin Smith
Lorne Barlow – Barlow Chimney Sweeps
Dan Kerr
Patricia Kerr
Bill Gunn – Fine Pine Things
Amy Charron - RMT
Loralee Gordon – Union Library

Guests: Peter Spik

Regrets: Marla McPhee – M & J Hair Boutique
Lori Patteri – Town Councillor

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

Past Minutes :

Motion: Larry Peterson + Lorne Barlow moved that the minutes of March 01, 2011 – carried

Treasurer's Report: -

Motion – Larry Peterson + Mike Peever approved that the Treasurer's Report be adopted as presented. – carried.

Guest Speaker – Peter Spik

Economic Development – involves both Town and Township – The surrounding area have many abandoned mine shafts which are filled with water. Idea is to remove the water and create geothermal to generate heat and pump the water back into the

mine. Anyone using geothermal can save 40 to 60% of their heating bill. Mine shafts are unique to Bruce Mines and separates this community different from the other communities. It may be able to draw businesses to this area. Geothermal is ideal for large warehouses, buildings repairing heavy equipments, institutions. The new elementary school could save a lot of money in heating. What about hydroponic gardening ?

Peter likes the hydroponic project – ethnic foods are in a growing demand and hydroponic gardening which would enable the vegetables to be grown. Such a project would involve private investment but with community input. Ontario has a “Growth Plan for Northern Ontario”.

Loblaws is a very green corporation – the first to remove plastic bags and pushing cloth bags. Loblaw ships transport loads of food north and the transports return to Toronto empty....could ship back hydroponic products. Loblaw would be a good contact.

There would be a need to do a feasibility study....the state of technology, the supply of water, the legal status of the abandoned mines, etc.

Peter has spoken with Township Council and they are supportive of the idea and the Council is prepared to contribute some money to such a feasibility study. Howie Bowes is to speak with the Town Council. Peter is on the Board of East Algoma Community and they are prepared to contribute money to such a project. There are other sources such as Fednor and other venture groups. Peter will be speaking with the Innovation Centre.

Peter is looking for (1) formal support (2) a bridge between the Town and Township (3) some volunteers to work on the project (4) some money toward the feasibility study.

General Discussion – Skip Hamilton is very knowledgeable about the area and geothermal system.

Peter is welcome to contact Peterson and Torrance about future meetings

Insurance: - [old report]

The insurance premium has been paid for the year. There are some questions that need to be answered. The commercial accounts have been transferred to Sault Ste. Marie

French Fryer: - no report

Canada Day – Lori Patteri sent in a report that Canada Day preparations are still in progress. Confirmation has been received from Mark Jetta that he will do the fireworks but the Town still has to get him a budget and a new location. The Committee has sent emails to a number of organizations/businesses to ask for their involvement. The Committee has not heard back from the RBC or Navy League Band. The Legion is to discuss this at their April 11th meeting. Council is still working on setting an overall budget for the event. Volunteers will be needed for event so please spread the word to your friends and family.

Mike Peever reported that the Town needs a partner and are approaching the Recreational Committee for assistance.

Web Site: - Pat Peterson reported that webmaster, Alison Cragg, has updated the business directory. New Members with links are Amy Charron, RMT and the Round Barn. All Chamber members need to check their listing and if they want changes in their listing or links to their facebook pages or web sites they should send Pat an email and Pat will then forward the information to Alison for updating.

Membership: - Michael Peever reported that new members are joining

Four & Friends Art Show & Sale: - Brian Torrance reported that one invitation is waiting for a reply.

Bruce Mines and District Historical Society: -

Larry Peterson reported that over the past week the Bruce Mines Historical Society had a display set up at the library celebrating Heritage week. The Nip and Tuck RR model was there along with a number of pictures, and a powerpoint slideshow that captured the theme of the week --- changing Architecture and Landscapes. The display was done in conjunction with the Rydal Bank Historical Society and Winnogene Sturgeon's Family History Binders.

Grants & Funds, - We have applied to the Trillium Foundation for funds to brighten the exterior of the building. Officially, we won't make any statement till after April 5, however, it is looking promising. We have also applied for a student grant for employment for the summer. No response as yet on that.

Rydal Bank Historical Society: - no report

Library – Librarian, Lorelee Gordon, sent in the following report:

Fri. April 15, 2011 – Easter Egg Decorating – Union Library – Bruce Mines from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact 705-785-3370

Town Improvements – Meeting Wed night re: community hall etc.

Algoma Kinnewabi Tourist Association: -

Pat Peterson reported that Algoma Country Website has had over 13 million hits since January 2010. 977 guides were downloaded so far for 2011. Bruce Mines was one of the Communities in the top 10 searches.

Please check out the northernontario.travel portal.....there is a great article about Bruce Mines with photos and this portal for Algoma County is maintained and updated by AKTA.

As a side note, Lori Patteri sent in a report that she had attended the North Channel Marine seminar on April 2, 2011. Carol Caputo of Algoma Kinnewabi did the introduction and is excited and supportive of all aspects of tourism in the area and offered to add any local events, information, etc. to both websites northernontario.travel and algomacountry.com

Royal Canadian Legion – *Sunday April 17, 2011 – Easter Pancake Breakfast – Bruce Mines Legion* from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – draw for children Easter baskets; free egg colouring and egg hunt.

Lions Club: - no report

SnoGlyders – no report

Sylvan Circle: - no report

Agricultural Society: - no report

Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce: - the draft chamber membership card is a good idea. It is not really needed to attend Take 5 events in the Soo.

Correspondence: none

Citizen of the Year – no report

Community Hall – Lori Patteri sent in a report reminding all those interested in the Community Hall to attend the public meeting on Wed. April 06, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Hall. There will be discussions on various options for the community hall as well as giving residents information with regards to the Hwy. 17/Robinson Dr. corridor project and the Waterfront & Marks St. project.

Trade Fair – old report - Elaine Switzman, Sandy Ubohy, Merin Smith and Marla McPhee are working on this.

Elaine reported that the Trade Show is set for Fri. May 6th and Sat. May 7th at the Community Hall and the Hall is now booked. Letters are being developed in preparation for mailing.. It will have a Mother's Day theme to it. There will be concentrated more on a trade/business format.

The Public Health are being invited to make a presentation on the new regulations on dealing with public food. Apparently there is compulsory regulations for caterers, restaurants and other people offering food to the public. The course is about 4 hours and certification is given. The admission fee is requested to be waived for volunteers.

Elaine Switzman that this is the 5th Trade Fair and hopes to have it reported in the local newspapers. Food Health Safety Program is \$40.00 per person. Posters and flyers will be going out to all post office box holders.

Motion Bill Gunn + Mike Peever that the Chamber sponsor 2 people to attend the Public

Joint Advertising Committee -

Michael Peever reported the Committee has been formed. Funding is being looked into. Revamping the website for the Town. The Highway signs are being revamped and is looking into suggestions. The signs will be able to put up changeable messages.

Committee is preparing a budget.

Committee Members – Michael Peever, Norm Hern, Howie Bowes, Sara Swain.

Mine Shaft: - Lori Patteri sent in a report that the Simpson Mine Shaft was broken into a window was broken and no other damage was noticed at this stage. This repair and yearly maintenance issues are to be scheduled shortly. The application deadline for summer students is Friday April 08, 2011.

Chamber representation at Bruce Mines Council Meetings – no report

Chamber representation at Township of Plummer Additional

Dan Kerr submitted a report on the Township meeting.....

****EXCERPTS FROM COUNCIL MEETING 16Feb11****

3 PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: 6:30 pm

- a) Paul Prosperi – Ministry of Municipal Affairs Municipal Advisor – Role of the Ministry; Services provided
- Presentation – summary of overhead slides (distributed)
 - Role of the Municipal Services Office
 - Enhancing the Provincial-Municipal relationships
 - 2011 FONOM-MMAH Conference May 11-13th in Timmins
 - Building Local Capacity
 - Corporate Activities
 - MMAH can deliver training on an Adhoc basis: i.e. roles & relationships between council and staff; ODRAP; Economic development & Strategic planning – currently gathering info on Twsp's with/out strategic plan
 - Accountability & Transparency
 - Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program (ODRAP)
 - Municipal Conflict of Interest: no one can force you to declare – it is up to you to know what it is and declare on either direct or indirect; important to declare if you have an “interest” as there are penalties. – When in doubt step out.
 - Listing of resources provided to councillors
 - Algoma is in MSO North East – Head office is in Sudbury
 - Something to keep in mind about going into closed – don't go into closed because you can – do it because you should.

Other notes;

- Council works together as a whole
- Council's role is a governing body not and administrative body
- Any council business needs to take place around a council table.
- Funding Models – staff questioned central location for all available i.e. Federal Business Development Bank previously printed a book with various models.
- Financial Presentation from MMAH will be at a future date when available.

Paul Prosperi left at 7:15 pm

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

11. Health Centre ~ Norman Hern

- a) Algoma Manor – Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic (resIn)

ResIn 2010-54

Carl MacKenzie

Angela Hornett

WHEREAS the rural communities to be served by the North Channel Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinics have a lack of health services, limited health care choices for residents and many vulnerable residents who need primary care services, and;

WHEREAS the North Channel Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic will be a significant addition to the primary care services to area residents by providing care for people who do not have a physician and thus reduce the visits to the hospital emergency rooms, and;

WHEREAS the current Rural Northern Physician Group Association funding model does not allow for full collaboration between the Physicians and the Nurse Practitioner program;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Council requests that the Minister of Health develop a flexible funding model that will allow the physicians and nurse practitioners to work together to provide primary care to our residents. CD

ResIn 2010-55

Peter Spik

Norman Hern

WHEREAS the Board of Management for Algoma Manor had received an announcement from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care in October 2010 for funding support for the development of a business plan; funding for project staff; legal expenses for incorporation; fees to cover the cost of design of the space for the Nurse Practitioner-Led clinic, and audit fees, and:

WHEREAS to date, they have not received the funding thus delaying the date when patients can be accepted and served;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Council requests that the Minister of Health release the funds for the Board of Management for Algoma Manor so this project can move forward in a timely fashion. CD

- b) RNPGA Contracts (email D. Brunke Feb8/11)
 - Council questioned if the Doctor's would be interested in purchasing the building?

13. Tri-Neighbours & Waste Management ~ C. MacKenzie

- a) Private Lane #2 requesting recycling pick-up
 - Recycling bins are available for free at the Tri-Neighbours site
 - Ratepayers can place their recyclables for pickup at the junction of a Private Lane & Serviced road, in the same area where they place their garbage for pickup.
 - It is up to the ratepayer to ensure that garbage is properly secured from animals

18. **Other:**

- a) EACMRC – Minutes Feb 3, 2011

ResIn 2010-59

Norman Hern

Peter Spik

WHEREAS the Rural Agri-Innovation Network [RAIN] are pursuing a 3 year project in Algoma to generate 3 senior and 2-3 intern positions during the course of the pilot project, and;

WHEREAS the Algoma RAIN is dedicated to the needs of agricultural organizations, producers, suppliers and Agri-entrepreneurs in Northern Ontario, and

WHEREAS the focus of this project will be the retention of existing employment in the industry through support of local farming and farm-based business; and the generation of further employment by supporting youth attraction and retention and fostering value added opportunities and business diversification through applied research.

BE IT RESOLVED that this Council supports the RAIN project in principal. CD

b) Lake Huron North Shore~ Proposed Bike Route
Lake Huron North Shore Bike Route~Distance List (Sault to Sudbury

24 **MEMBERS REPORT (on items other than listed above): (COUNCIL MEMBERS)**

P. Spik:

- Discussed possible options for the Twsp to generate revenue via Solar Energy
- Estimates range from \$250,000 - \$3 Million dollar projects depending on the project; ground or rooftop mount
- David Beith recommends possible locations would be on the Twsp Garage/Office rooftop and rooftop of the garage on the hill.
- Estimate somewhere between 30,000-40,000 kw feed back into the system; generating an estimate of \$28,000 per year of the 20 year contract.
- Other options would be to lease the rooftops generating approximately \$3,000 per year
- P. Spik will follow up with vendor for a more formal proposal with definite figures.

N. Hern

- Reported that the Township should be looking at some new chairs for the Bruce Station Hall

Other:

- Staff to cancel Sault College delegation for March 2nd

Elections of Officers

Open for nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary – Treasurer

Motion – Bill Gunn + Patricia Kerr – nominations closed.

President: Brian Torrance - acclaimed

Vice President: Michael Peever - acclaimed

Secretary/Treasurer – Larry Peterson - acclaimed

New Business: none

Next Meeting: Tuesday May 03, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. at the Library.

Executive Meeting – T.B.A.

Adjournment: at 9:00 a.m.