

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, Jan. 10th, 2012 – UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY – 8:00 A.M.
WEBSITE: www.brucemineschamber.com
Email: info@brucemineschamber.com

Present:

- *Larry Peterson – Peterson & Peterson Law Firm
- *Merin Smith – Retired Teacher
- *Lorne Barlow – Barlow's Chimney Sweeps
- *Howie Bowes – Town Councillor
- *Michael Peever – Mae-Ger Treasures
- *Dan Kerr
- *Pat Kerr

Guests:

- Regrets:** Brian Torrance – Torrance Custom Interiors
Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse

Call to Order:

Michael Peever called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Past Minutes :

Motion: Larry Peterson + Lorne Barlow moved that the minutes of Dec. 06, 2011 be approved as presented – carried

Treasurer's Report: -

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

East Algoma Strategic Project (old report)

Marla McPhee reported that on Tues. Oct. 25, 2011 there was a Community Workshop to help create an Economic Development Strategic Plan for Bruce Mines and Plummer Twp. The group was broken into 4 to 6 tables with 10 people to a table. Each group made note of what they (1) DID NOT want to see the community develop and (2) what they DID want to see their community develop into. WCM Consulting Group would take all of the information and will put it into a structured report to be sent out to the municipalities in January 2012.

Geothermal Energy

Howie Bowes reported that the Geo Thermal meeting is tonight at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Offices.

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: -

Lorne Barlow reported that since he is now the Fire Chief both he and Merin will not be able to continue with the French Fry Project. Thanks was given to Lorne and Merin for doing a fabulous project during their term of oversight.

Canada Day –

Howie Bowes will represent the Town on the Canada Day Committee. July 01, 2012 is on a Sunday. The fire works will be set off on Saturday night due to the availability of the fireworks crew. Sunday will have the parade and other activities. Vettes for Vets will be Fri. and Sat. June 30th. Both Town and Recreational Committee will look after Canada Day

Web Site: -.

Larry Peterson reported that he had renewed the web domain for another year.

Membership: -

Michael Peever reported he need an updated list of members for 2012 and 2011.

Year End Reports – (old report)

Brian Torrance wondered about doing up a year end report which summarizes all the activities of the Chamber. Many in the community are not aware of the Chamber's activities in the community.

Four & Friends Art Show & Sale: (old report)

Brian Torrance reported that there is an upcoming meeting for 2012. Transfield agreed to cover 50% of the cost of sign replacement.

East Algoma Small Business – no report

Bruce Mines Historical Society: - (old report)

Connie Bennett reported that the big issue is the Jail – the President approached council – the town has given the Historical Society 1 year to prepare its presentation. The Society will be doing a cost study

Rydal Bank Historical Society: - no report

Library –

Lorelee Gordon, Librarian, sent in the following report:

New Database for 2012 – Mango Languages – Free language courses through a link on the library website and your library card number – Foreign language courses and English courses – Mango Basic teaches common phrases - Mango Complete teaches more in depth vocabulary and grammar skills - Record your voice to aid in mastering the correct pronunciation – Create a Profile so that the site remembers where you are in a course.

Family Literacy Day is January 27th. Watch for coming events.

Free Computer Training @ your Library - Book a one-on-one appointment to learn basic computer skills including email, Internet searching, Facebook, Chat, Skype and working with programs such as Microsoft Word.

Friends of the Library Monthly Bazaars featuring local artisans – Second Friday and Saturday of the month - Next one is February 10th & 11 – Contact Linda Samuels 705-785-3248 if you are interested in showcasing your creations or volunteering for Friends of the Library.

Town Improvements – Howie reported that the sidewalks that were planned will probably not happen due to lack of funds. Patrick Lee is holding back on the “letter of substantial completion” until his accounts are paid in full.

Royal Canadian Legion – no report

Lions Club: - Carol Rickard sent in the following report:

The Lions Club had a great year in 2011, with several fundraisers (Easter Bake Sale, Canada Day Pie Sale, Ham Supper, etc.) and made a few donations to the community, ending with the Annual Seniors Christmas Dinner with over 100 Seniors being served a complimentary Christmas Dinner complete with all the trimmings. They always appreciate and enjoy this event.

Saturday, March 17, 2012 we will be having an Irish Stew Dinner at the Bruce Station Hall at 5:00pm

Saturday, April 07, 2012 is our Annual Easter Bake Sale at Foster's Freshmart from 10:00am - ?? (this usually sells out fast)

SnoGlyders – no report

Sylvan Circle: - no report

Agricultural Society: - no report

Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce: - no report

Citizen of the Year – Larry Peterson reported that Tom Varey has agreed to be Citizen of the Year 2012. Fri. Feb. 17, 2012 will be held at the Bruce Station Community Hall

Community Hall – Howie Bowes reported that the engineering firm who is involved in the new design to attend at the meeting to be set. .

Trade Fair – [old report]

The chamber will do it on its own in 2012

Joint Advertising Committee - Committee Members – Michael Peever, (Chairman) Norm Hern, Howie Bowes, Sara Swain.

Mike Peever reported that the Township and Towns have approved the funding for the brochure. The AKTA advertisement does not have municipal support but there are businesses who are interested in advertising with AKTA

Algoma Kinnewabi Tourist Association: - no report

Simpson Mine Shaft: - (old report)

Lori Patteri reported that Henry Pieters will do repairs at the mine shaft after the marina shuts down. Outdoor work will be done first.

Mix & Mingle –

Merin reported that it was a very successful event. The quiz was well received and created quite a bit of interest in local information.

Agricultural Society – no report

Ungated Tourist Attraction: (old report)

Marla McPhee met with Ted Alleway, Merin Smith and have agreed on a site for the sculpture. Ted has put in a request for materials and the price will be made known to the committee. The grant approved is \$3,000.00. Ted reported that it would take him a month to create the sculpture and it is to go on display in May 2012.

(new report) Merin reported that Marla has filled out the grant application and Ted is to work out the budget.

The Craft Show – no report

Library Clock (old report)

Michael Peever will donate a clock to the library meeting room.

Business of the Month

Dan Kerr, Pat Kerr and Lorelee Gordon are looking for suggestions on businesses to promote. Since December is so busy with Christmas celebrations and activities, this matter will be set over to January 2012

Healthy Communities:-

Healthy Communities Coordinator, Cindy Stonehouse-Jones sent in the following report....

1. a note of thanks to the Chamber and other Businesses for showing their support and kindness in having the Healthy Communities Office moved to the arena. The arena location is going well.
2. **Tues. Jan. 31, 2011 – Soccer Program Starting** – enrollment is limited due to space and volunteers. 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (ages 4 – 8) and 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (ages 9-14). Proper clothing and shoes is required before the child can play. Contact Crystal Reader at 705-785-3350 or Cindy Stonehouse-Jones at 705-785-3791 or email: cstonehousejones@ontera.net
3. **Wed. Jan. 25, 2012 – The Community Kitchen – Bruce Mines United Church** – 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. This is an information session and to make this program run, a minimum of 4 people are required. Enrollment for this event is limited due to the size of the kitchen. Mothers with children are welcome.

Northern Ontario Heritage Fund (NOHF)

Information was received from Suzanne Faubert-Astles from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines – Blind River Office containing the following:

1. Infrastructure & Community Development Program
2. Northern Ontario Entrepreneur Program
3. Youth Internship & Co-op Program
4. Young Entrepreneur Program
5. Enterprises North Job Creation Program
6. Public Sector Emerging Technology Program
7. Private Sector Emerging Technology Program

Additional information may be obtained by contacting:

Email: suzanne.faubert-astles@ontario.ca

Tel.: 705-356-3004

Fax: 705-356-7441

Web: www.mndm.gov.on.ca/nohfc/programs/default_e.asp

Correspondence: none

New Business:

Annual Womens Hockey Tournament

Email from Crystal Reader – the Womens Hockey Tournament – the committee wants Chamber to help finance 2 banners....all accommodations at Bavarian, Bobbers and Bruce Bay Accommodations are full due to this event. The Womens Tournament love to play hockey in Bruce Mines and they always see new improvements at each tournament. Every penny from the registration goes to arena rental, referees, etc....the only money raiser is from the bar..... the large banner is \$215.00 and the smaller \$115.00.....

Motion Lorne Barlow + Larry Peterson that the chamber donate \$400.00 to the Rec. Committee for the purchase of the 2 banners – carried.

Vettes for Vets

Fri. June 29th and Sat. June 30th – Vettes for Vets. Andre Bisson will be performing and other entertaining impersonators such as Loretta Lynn. A budget is being prepared.

A letter from the Legion was received.....seeking support from other Legion Branches, Town, Township and Corvette Clubs.....is asking the Chamber for \$1,000.00 donation.

The consensus is that the Chamber give a letter of moral support but the response to financial donations be deferred until the budget has been finalized for this project.

Next Meeting: Tuesday Feb. 07, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. at the Library.

Executive Meeting – T.B.A.

Adjournment: at 9:15 a.m.