

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, June 05, 2012 – UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY – 8:00 A.M.

WEBSITE: www.brucemineschamber.com

Email: info@brucemineschamber.com

Present:

Brian Torrance – Torrance Custom Interiors
Arlene Romberg – The Chip Wagon
Marla McPhee – M & J Hair Boutique
Howie Bowes – Town Councillor
Lory Patteri – Town Councillor
Michael Peever – Mae-Ger Treasures
Sandy Ubohy – Algoma District Administration Board
Larry Peterson – Peterson & Peterson Law Firm
Bruce McNeely - SnoGlyders
Sam Luk – Librarian
Rhonda Ferris – Jerry's Live Bait

Guests:

Regrets: Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse

Call to Order:

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

Past Minutes :

Motion: Larry Peterson + Howie Bowes moved that the minutes of May 01st, 2012 be approved – carried

Treasurer's Report: -

Motion: Larry Peterson + Michael Peever the financial report as presented be approved – carried.

Election of Officers:

Existing Officers:

Pres. Brian Torrance

V.P. – Mike Peever

Sec. Treas. – Larry Peterson

Motion: Howie Bowes + Marla McPhee that the existing officers remain in office - carried

Geothermal Energy - no report

Insurance: -

Larry Peterson reported the premium of \$1,620.00 is now due and payable.

Motion: Larry Peterson + Marla McPhee that the premium be paid for another year - carried

French Fryer: -

Lory Patteri reported that the first event is the Classic Car Show this Saturday. All supplies are being accumulated. They plan to use the 1 fryer + small propane tanks since the event is over by 4:00 p.m.

Community Day will have 2 fryers in operation.

Community Day

A letter was received from the Town requested financial support.

Motion: Mike Peever + Howie Bowes that the Chamber donate \$400.00 to Community Day events – carried.

Web Site: -

Michael Peever reported that the website needs to be updated – local businesses have not provided correct information for the website.

Membership: -

Michael Peever reported that memberships are coming. Francine will do the certificates and send them out. Michael is encouraging other businesses and people to join the Chamber.

Four & Friends Art Show & Sale:

Brian Torrance reported the event will be held on July 6, 7, and 8 2012 at the Rydal Bank Hall. The hours are changed to 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. – no evening hours since they are off the highway. All events will be held at Rydal Bank. Highway signs – ART SHOW TODAY with an arrow.

Ungated Tourist Attraction:

Marla McPhee spoke with Ted Alleway last week – the sculpture will be completed before June 30, 2012. The Historical Society have cleared the area where it will be installed. Beans Construction will donate a large puddingstone rock

Bruce Mines Historical Society: -

It was noted that the museum is now open and the flower beds are being developed. The Call of Copper, and other books are available for sale. Historical Society are doing a food booth at the Car Show.

Rydal Bank Historical Society: - no report

Library – Sam Luk, Librarian reported – there is a yard sale set for June 30, 2012 – looking for donations.

Town Improvements – no report

Royal Canadian Legion – no report

Lions Club: - no report

SnoGlyders – no report

Sylvan Circle: - no report

Agricultural Society: - no report

Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce: -

Larry Peterson circulated handouts received from the Soo Chamber

Community Hall –

Lory Patteri reported waiting for the engineer to come up with the final design. The final design will be available to anyone from the public who wants to see it.

Trade Fair – has been cancelled for 2012. The project will be reviewed later in 2012.

Joint Advertising Committee - Committee Members – Michael Peever, (Chairman) Norm Hern, Howie Bowes, Arlene Romberg

Michael stressed the importance of Pat Peterson's assistance in distributing the materials. They need to review the contents of the website which need to be updated.

Algoma Kinnewabi Tourist Association: -

Michael Peever reported ALTA is a tremendous resource to promoting our community. Again many thanks to Pat Peterson who facilitated all this free promotion.

Simpson Mine Shaft: -

Lory Patteri reported that there has been more vandalism. They hope to open by July 01, 2012. Students have been hired. One student will be dressed in period costume.

Business of the Month - no report

Healthy Communities:- (old report)

It is understood that Sean Hanlon will be replacing Cindy Stonehouse-Jones in order to complete the project while Cindy is on maternity leave.

Student Employment Programs

Sandy Ubohy reported on **Remote Employment Training Remote Employment Training**

(The Program is starting this morning at the Thessalon ADSAB offices)

The Algoma District Services Administration Board - Ontario Works has been offering Remote Employment Training to individuals throughout the Algoma District in our office locations of Elliot Lake, Blind River, Thessalon and Wawa.

- Registration is by referral from Employment Solutions, Employment Options, Algoma District Services Administration Board (Ontario Works) Ontario Disability Support Program employment service provider and your local First Nations employment service provider

This training not only provides employment opportunities during difficult economic times, but it also:

- Enhances employment options and outcomes
- Enhances job retention
- Increases labour market participation
- Removes persistent employment barriers (disability, childcare, transportation, eldercare, etc)
- Promotes social inclusion
- Increases skills, knowledge and behaviours for succeeding in home based employment and provides knowledge of the benefits of home-based employment

Movement to Improvement Workshops

Algoma District Services Administration Board- Ontario Works is offering this training for individuals throughout the Algoma District in each of our area offices in Elliot Lake, Blind River, Thessalon (Central Algoma) and Wawa. This four-day program focuses on the fundamental life skills such as:

- problem solving
- negotiation skills
- crisis management
- communication
- coaching

These skills will enhance the employability of individuals.

Summer Jobs for Youth 2012

(Waiting for more information from Sault College)

We are going to be partnering again this year with Sault College-Employment Solutions to deliver the Summer Jobs for Youth Program throughout the Algoma District. The specific criteria for 2012 has not yet been provided, but the information from the past years is as follows:

- Eight (8) week program (July and August) with six (6) weeks of employment placement
- Employers receive fully subsidized youth employee(s) for six weeks
- For youth 15 to 18 years and they could not have previously completed the program
- The youth and the employers must meet the criteria of the program

Youth receive one (1) week of pre-employment and one (1) week of post-employment training which includes, (life skills, employability skills, job search techniques, resume writing, goal setting, interview coaching, financial planning, workplace orientation and health and safety)

The objective of the program is to:

1. Provide youth participants with a supported and supervised employment experience.
2. Provide youth participants with an understanding of, and opportunity to, develop positive attitudes, skills and behaviours required for employment.
3. Provide youth participants with a supported transition from the program.

Information regarding criteria and how to apply for an employment placement should be available in June. In the meantime, if you are interested in this program, please call Sandy at 705-842-3370 Ext.262.

Channel Geocache Event

Pat Peterson reported that on **Sunday June 10, 2012 – GPS and compass 101** 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. is being held Lighthouse Lounge at Bruce Bay Cottages, 82 French Island Road, Bruce Mines - Cost; \$25.00 includes lunch - Bring a GPS or compass if you have one - Wear proper foot wear and clothing for hiking - Get ready to participate in the North Channel Geocache Event in September - Instructor – Denis Gauthier - Must pre register: email islandkeeper@brucebaycottages.com or call 705 785 3473

Correspondence: none

New Business:

Clarks Bridge: - Bruce McNeely reported on the following:

Last Sept. SnoGlyders received an email from Township stating that Clarks Bridge will be shut down. Kresin Engineering reported that the bridge should be shut down. SnoGlyders hired their own engineer – Bob Woods of Wright – report that the bridge is structurally sound – still has a 9 ton rating. Township allowed the bridge to be used for snowmachining. Then last week the Club received a letter from the Township the bridge is shut down. There will be no trail to Thessalon – no access from the USA through Bruce Mines. The Clark Bridge is essential to the continuation of the snowmobile trails. Public support for the Club has dwindled – can't afford to have dances and BBQs. Club may be able to survive financially for another year. SnoGlyderes have done a lot of benefit for the community – now the club needs community support.

The shutting down of Clarks Bridge will affect local tourism. The recent Economic Study stressed the importance of tourism.

There are ATV clubs in Elliot Lake – SnoGylders liability terminates when the snow is gone whereas ATV liability is all year round.

Snowmobiling membership is down – Clark's bridge is under scrutiny. Therefore why not keep the bridge open for the next couple of years so long as SnoGylders is still around.

The Legion's ATV rally will not be able to take place.

Bruce contacted Kresin Engineering and he is standing by his report. Beth West is looking into the cost of demolition

Bruce wants the Chamber to show up at the Township meeting tomorrow night to stress the importance of the bridge to local tourism. Over the years SnoGylders have spent over \$200,000.00. When Thessalon Club went down, Bruce Mines took over the Thessalon trails in order to keep the system open.

Motion: Michael Peever + Howie Bowes that the Chamber send out a letter to the Township on keeping the Clark Bridge open in order to maintain and promote tourism.- carried

Next Meeting: Tuesday July 3rd, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. at the Library.

Executive Meeting – T.B.A.

Adjournment: at 9:10 a.m.

NOTES