

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, Jan. 08 2013 – 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
Arlene Romberg -
Laurie Mortimore – ADSAB
George Cragg – Copper Bay Web Design
Alison Cragg – Copper Bay Web Design
Howie Bowes – Town Councillor
Ron Smith – Bruce Mines Historical Society

Guests:

Regrets: Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
Lory Patteri - Town Councillor
Marla McPhee – M & J Hair Boutique

Call to Order:

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

Past Minutes :

Motion: Larry Peterson + George Cragg moved that the minutes of Nov. 06, 2012 be approved
– carried

It was noted that there was no December meeting as no one had the key to get into the Library.

Treasurer's Report: -

Motion Larry Peterson + Howie Bowes moved that the Treasurers report up to Dec. 31, 2012 be approved as presented – carried

Geothermal Energy - no report

***French Fryer:** - no report – need to find a chairperson to run this committee – this is becoming an urgent matter

Web Site: - Alison Cragg reported on the following;

The traffic figures for the BMCOC site for the year 2012 are as follows:

On average, 238 visits to the website per month.

- Favourite pages:
 - Business Directory 53%
 - Calendar of events 40%
 - Tourism 7%

- Visiting countries
 - Canada 85%
 - USA 6%
 - Others 4%

The traffic for the BMCOC website is down from previous years. We believe that is now due to the town website being properly maintained and updated, with the similar information now in the two website.

Membership – no report

Four & Friends Art Show & Sale: - no report

Ungated Tourist Attraction: (Copper Miner Statue) - no report

Simpson Mine Shaft: - the Town will be renaming the Simpson Mine Shaft in honour of the late Ted Leahy who was the prime mover behind the project.

Bruce Mines Historical Society: -

Ron Smith reported this is the quiet time for the Historical Society. The museum saw more locals visit the place .Another application to the Trillium grant for 2013.

Rydal Bank Historical Society: - no report

Library – 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: - Pat Peterson sent in the following report.

- Spring Expo is March 22, 23, 24 if you are interested in a both contact the Salt Ste Marie C of C at 705 949 7152 or go to www.ssmcoc.com

- Employment Standards Act – fairness in the work place of all Ontarinas
Tues Jan 22, 2013 at Grand Gardens 68 Dennis at 8:00 am – 9.15am

Cost \$15.95 +hst

- Take 5 at Sault College sponsored by Canada Trust Thursday Jan 24 5.00 pm – 7 pm
Cost \$5.00 for Chamber members

Trade Fair – has been cancelled for 2012. The project will be reviewed later in 2013.

Joint Advertising Committee - see below

Algoma Kinnewabi Tourist Association: - (old report)

Michael Peever reported that the advertising has been almost completed for Kinnewabi. Pat Peterson, Arlene Romberg and Mike are working on this project.

Healthy Communities:- Larry Peterson read Sean Hanlon's report for November 2012 dealing with: * Mine Trail Development; *Cross Country Skiing, *Geocaching, *Fitness Centre and Arena Games Room, *Educational DVDs, *Sports Camp, *Public Notices.

Healthy Communities Coordinator & Recreational Coordinator

Pat Peterson sent in the following report concerning the future of Healthy Communities:

Healthy Communities Coordinator Sean Hanlon had his term extended until February. He had put a proposal together and gave it to Bruce Mines and Plummer Additional late fall with his recommendation to hire a recreational

Coordinator and that he would offer to work for his present salary and share his hours between both communities as Recreational Coordinator and Economic Development . This is an exceptional offer as someone with his training would be asking for a much more lucrative salary.

It was hoped that the two communities would be able to come to an agreement with the extension of his Healthy Communities term. The arena's future and discussion of staffing at the arena seems to have added some confusion. It has also been mentioned that some feel he does not volunteer enough hours to the community and really that should have nothing to do with it as this would be a paid position and the volunteering should be from the residents.

It will be shame if our area loses Sean and his capabilities as he has so much to offer our area.

The Chamber may not be able to do anything about this but should be aware of the situation.

It was noted that Sean Hanlon has volunteered a lot of his time with the Jr. Soccer Program, the Rec. All Nighter, the Teddy Bear Picnic just to name a few.

Howie Bowes strongly supports what Sean has done and acknowledges the need for a full time Recreational Coordinator. Volunteers are burning themselves out trying to organize events

when such duties could be taken on by the Recreational Coordinator and the volunteers assisting. – It is money that is the big block to renewing the Healthy Communities program for 2013.

Brian Torrance noted that there are 3 issues that are all related – Rec. Director, Economic Development, and the Arena which needs a Chamber Committee to head up and coordinate –

Motion: Larry Peterson + Howie Bowes that a Chamber form Committee to look into the development of a Recreational Director, Economic Development and the future of the Arena.-carried

At the February meeting, the Chamber hopes to chose a chairman for this committee. Anyone interested in taking on this project as there are many willing to assist, please contact Brian Torrance.

North Channel Geocache Event

Pat Peterson sent in a report that a meeting will be held sometime this month to discuss the plans for 2013.

Mine Trail Development.

Pat Peterson sent in a report that a newsletter will be released by Sean Hanlon, Healthy Communities Coordinator this month. A printed map is being designed and will be printed and available at the Museum. An article is also being written for the web sites.

Correspondence: none

Community Hall – Brian Torrance reported that he had a meeting with the Council and Engineer in November to discuss and implement some of the Chamber's recommendations to make the new community hall more user friendly.

Citizen of the Year – Larry Peterson reported that Clayton Jeffery is the Citizen of the Year with the dinner being held at the Bruce Station Hall on Friday Feb. 22, 2013

New Business:

Mix and Mingle – Larry Peterson reported that he had received a couple of inquiries from Chamber members who are not able to attend meetings but who looked forward to the Mix and Mingle event to reacquaint themselves with other Chamber members and supporters.

New Town Business:

Howie Bowes – reported that he had a meeting over a grant for infrastructure – redevelopment of Taylor St. – application deadline is Wed. Feb. 9th – part of the plan is to develop a bike/walking path along the road. There are more applications than there is money and it is not known if the Town's application will be successful.

Morning meetings (old report)

Morning meetings are difficult for some people to attend and interest has been expressed in holding an occasional evening meeting along the line of "After 5". Brian asked Mike Peever to look into this and report back to the January meeting to see if there is interest and if it would be viable.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 05 , 2013 at 8:00 a.m. at the Library.

Executive Meeting – T.B.A.

Adjournment: at 9:10 a.m.

NOTES