

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, April 01, 2014 – UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY – 8:00 A.M.
WEBSITE: www.brucemineschamber.com
Email: info@brucemineschamber.com

Present:

Michael Peever – Mae-Ger Treasures
Larry Peterson – Peterson & Peterson Law Firm
Ron Lamon – Algoma Insurance
Lory Patteri – Town Mayor
Brian Torrance – Torrance Custom Interiors
Sara Leach – Employment Solutions

Guests: Sharon Hunter

Regrets: Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
Lori Mortimore – ADSAB
Sandy Ubohy – ADSAB

Call to Order:

Michael Peever called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Past Minutes :

Motion: Larry Peterson + Ron Lamon moved that the minutes of Tues. March 04, 2014 be approved – carried

Treasurer's Report: - Motion – Larry Peterson + Lory Patteri that the treasurer's report be approved – carried.

Economic Development Officer. –

In keeping with the past study of the 5 local municipalities, there is movement among the 5 municipalities to organize and agree to the hiring of a mutual Economic Development Officer. A committee has been formed and so far there have been 2 meetings. The last meeting was in Spring 2013.

Lory Patteri reported that funding seemed to be a problem.....project is basically on hold. Psychologically there is a concern among the 4 or 5 municipalities about getting their fair share of projects and benefits.

Sara Leach asked if there was any inquiry in funding for an Officer. NOHFC will fund a project like this.

There was some talk about the Town/Township/Chamber going it alone....maybe....

French Fryer: - (old report)

Arlene Romberg is looking for equipment that would go along with the French Fryers. We need someone to head up the committee. We need to remember the repairs and improvements needed for the Booth at Fair Grounds + the review of staffing.

Web Site: - The website will be updated with links. George & Alison Cragg need to be kept informed on various projects in order to keep the website updated. The Craggs are excellent in keeping the website current.

Membership – memberships are coming in and the members will be passed onto the Web Master to add these members to our website. We need to set up a Pay Pal account .

Four & Friends Art Show & Sale: - Brian Torrance reported that they are not going ahead this year. Telephone meetings were held in the past with a mid-April meeting planned. 23 years of very successful shows but the last 3 years the sales have been dropping. Yesterday's buyers are downsizing and no longer buying art. The younger people are not into buying art at this time.

Brian Torrance and his Committee are to be congratulated on 23 years of very successful Art Show & Sales. This event is popular amongst the Artists, the opening reception and closing gatherings are appreciated by the artists. The variety of art has brought in visitors from all over Ontario with many out of province and out of country travelers stopping to visit, sign the guest book and purchase works of art. For 23 years this event has had a major economic benefit to this community.

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

Simpson Mine Shaft – Lory Patteri reported no vandalism, there will be some repairs and maintenance. There are some thoughts on modifications to the building to make it more authentic. Kathy Leahy is still working on her late husband's book.

Bruce Mines Historical Society: - Larry Peterson reported that the Annual Meeting of the Historical Society is being held on Tuesday April 29, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Union Library. Grant applications are being prepared and submitted for summer students to look at the museum + grants to make improvements to the museum itself in particular the archive room.

Sara Leach reported that student employment programs are also available through her office – Employment Solutions

Rydal Bank Historical Society: - *Sunday, June 1st* - The Rydal Bank Historical Society's Annual Meeting begins at 4:00. The business meeting and elections will be followed by the Historical Topic. The Historical Topic will be presented by Jane Smith and her topic is The Importance of Preserving The Past.

A Potluck Supper will follow the meeting at 5:30.

The Annual Church Service at the Rydal Bank Church will follow at 7:00pm.

The public is welcome

Library – no report

Recreational Committee – Lory Patteri reported that on March 28th there was an all nighter – 28 teens attended which went very well. April 11, 12 and 13th – the Bruce Mines Karaoke will take place.

Royal Canadian Legion – Jean Burns sent in the following report:

Wed. April 09, 2014- 10:00 a.m. Bruce Mines Cenotaph – Royal Canadian Legion Br. 211 – laying wreath in honour of those who fought at Vimy Ridge

Sat. April 12, 2014 – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Pancake Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt Royal Canadian Legion Br. 211 – at Legion Hall, Bruce Mines Adults \$6.00, Children \$3.00

Fri. April 18, 2014 (Good Friday) Fish Fry – 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Royal Canadian Legion Br. 211 at Legion Hall – Bruce Mines \$12.00 per person.

Lions Club: - no report

SnoGlyders – no report

Sylvan Circle: - Lory Patteri reported that 2 representatives visited the new Community Hall and they appear interested in having the Hall part of the Sylvan Circle Tour.

Agricultural Society: - no report

Horticultural Society:- The Bruce Station Horticultural Society is having an active month in April – it is chaired by Maggie Willis

Tues. April 15 or Wed. April 16th – Greenthumb Greenhouse will be hosting its 3rd Annual Open House from 4:00 pm. To 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 17th – there will be a guest speaker – Louise Young – on raised garden beds held at the SnoGylders Clubhouse. There will be a member indoor plant/seed/bulb exchange

Sat. April 26th – there will be a plant/bulb sale/membership drive at the Cloudslee Lady Bug Tea

Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce: - no report

Trade Fair – see Barter in Bruce Mines (below)

Joint Advertising Committee - (old report) Mike Peever has been out collecting money for the AKTA promotion for 2014. All have paid but one.

Algoma Kinnewabi Tourist Association: - Pat Peterson sent in the following report:

AKTA is now entering stage 2 on establishing *Way Finding Signs* . There is an attractive Way Finding Sign at the museum.

Pat has volunteered to be the representative for Bruce Mines and will be attending the meetings, webinars and report back to both the Chamber and the Town. Presently Pat has no details but hopes that Bruce Mines will meet the requirements for another Way Finding Sign.

North Channel Marina Association: - Pat Peterson sent in the following report:

Pat is planning to attend the General meeting in Spanish on Friday April 11 and Saturday April 12. The Town has agreed to pay the \$75.00 registration fee.

The Shopping Bag Marketing Project fee of \$200.00 has been paid and the Marina Committee has agreed to pay \$100.00 to the chamber to assist in this project. 150 brochures were mailed out to Spanish about 10 days ago and these brochures will go into the bags to be handed out to the travelling boaters to encourage them to visit all the marinas along the North Shore including Bruce Mines.

Pat obtained and sent in the Marina Rates for 2014 to be circulated among the boaters.

North Channel Geocache Event – no report – the need for someone to head up this event and is knowledgeable in setting co-ordinates.

Mine Trail Development. – no report

Community Hall - The new hall is busy with new bookings and appears to be very well received by the community. There was some damage – duct tape removing paint off the wall – has been repaired. One of the steps need modification to make it more user friendly.

Mix and Mingle – no report

Chamber Facebook – it is available for everyone to enter messages and promotions on it.

Bruce Mines Farmer Market

Lory Patteri reported the design caused concern among some contractors. The design has been modified and tenders have gone out again.

School Breakfast program – (old report)

35 students eat breakfast at school every day and the program is in desperate need for funding. Michael will put up collection cans for donations. All members are encourage to donate and support the school breakfast program.

Barter in Bruce Mines

The Chamber has booked May 17, 2014 for the Community Hall for trade tables. The United Church Women want to coordinate their activities for that date. Tables are being reserved and all contacts can be through Michael Peever.

ADSAB – no report

New Projects (old report)

Arlene Romberg is looking into a cotton candy machine as a possible fund raiser for the Chamber. The machine costs \$600.00. It would cost \$2500.00-\$3000.00 to set it up on a towable cart. Water is an important element to the product.

The Chamber should look into a mobile food unit.

Citizen of the Year

Larry Peterson reported the Chamber is open to suggestions for Citizen of the Year 2015. Any suggestions with reasons are to be submitted to Larry.

Arena: -

Lory Patteri reported that a TSSA inspection scheduled for early April. The electrical inspection was done with a list of minor repairs to be attended to. Rob Romberg has accepted a 1 year contract to manage the arena. Rob went to the basic refrigeration course in Sudbury.

New Business (old report)

Welcome Wagon idea – Crystal Reader had put together a make shift package for the new pastor at the Lighthouse Church. We need a volunteer who will make up a welcome package for new comers.

Business Student Scholarships – the Chamber could benefit local students who are interested in business with some type of modest scholarship. It would also increase the profile of the Chamber in the community.

Sharon Hunter is applying for a grant through the Ontario Arts Council – deadline May 15th – for 5 billboards to go along Hwy. 17 – from Elliot Lake to Sault Ste. Marie - to contain artwork depicting local stories and attractions. Laird Signs have provided her with a list of Hwy spots. A letter of support has come from an Art Dealer in North Bay and from the Timber Village in Blind River. There is more to the North than rocks and trees. If funding is approved – Sharon will start to work on the billboards to be installed in Spring 2015 and they stay up for 1 year. After 1 year the billboards would be available to be purchased by municipalities, organizations and individuals.

Sharon is asking for a letter of support for the creation of 5 highway murals to be set up from Elliot Lake to Sault Ste. Marie to promote local stories and attractions. If the mural is of interest to the Bruce Mines area that the mural could be bought for the community.

Motion : Lory Patteri + Brian Torrance that the Chamber give a letter of support for the creation of 5 highway murals to be set up from Elliot Lake to Sault Ste. Marie to promote local stories and attractions. If the mural is of interest to the Bruce Mines area that the mural could be bought for the community.

Annual Directors and Officers:

The law requires 3 directors and 1 director has indicated they wish to be removed. We, therefore, need someone willing to be a director – which is a nominal position since all the work is done at the membership level. The position of officers is still open for participation. This matter is set over to the next meeting.

Miscellaneous: - no report

Buy Local (old report)

Brian Torrance commented about the need to “buy local” which includes the immediate area and surrounding area. The Chamber should develop a “buy local” program.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 6th, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. at the Library.

Executive Meeting – TBA

Adjournment: at 9:20 a.m.