

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, Feb. 3rd, 2015 – UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY – 8:00 A.M.
WEBSITE: www.brucemineschamber.com
Email: info@brucemineschamber.com

Present:

Arlene Romberg – Wyz Gyz Chip Wagon
Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
Larry Peterson – Peterson & Peterson Law Firm
Edith Orr – Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition
Brian Torrance – Torrance Custom Interiors
Sharon Hunter – Blackbird
Valyne Price – Employment Solutions – Blind River
Lory Patteri – Town Mayor
Jean Hershey – Rydal Bank Historical Society

Guests: David Ratz – Fresh Water Board member
Victoria Thomas – Fresh Water staff
Meghan Jarrett – Fresh Water Board member

Regrets: Michael Peever – Mae-Ger Treasures

7:30 a.m.- Pre-Meeting Breakfast compliments of Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition

Call to Order:

Arlene Romberg called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Past Minutes:

Larry Peterson + Brian Torrance that the minutes of January 06, 2015 be adopted as presented - carried

Treasurer's Report: Larry Peterson + Arlene Romberg that the Treasurer's report be adopted as presented. – carried

French Fryer: - Cotton Candy Machine: -

The Town is planning to do the Car show for 2016 – the French frier will be there. It is the second Saturday in June.

Web Site:

Larry Peterson reported that the domain name and hosting have been renewed for another year

Membership:

Motion: Pat Peterson + Jean Hershey that the Chamber will look into adding the PayPal onto the Chamber website – carried
Memberships are ready to go out shortly

Four & Friends Art Show & Sale:

Brian Torrance reported that the scholarship account is now closed. Visa account is cancelled.

Cheques are being sent out to various organizations supported by Four & Friends. The Scholarship Fund is being divided between Algoma University and CASS.

Geothermal - (old report):

Howie Bowes wonders if the Chamber would host an open house at the community hall for a general information session – keep it simple and reasonable short. Perhaps the experts could attend and explain in plain language what geothermal could mean to the community. It is important that the Chamber + Town + Township agree to work together on this project. Howie will follow up on this project.

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

Simpson Mine Shaft:

No report as the Shaft is closed for the season.

Bruce Mines Historical Society:

Larry Peterson reported that 60 copies of *The History of the Bruce Mine* is available for sale at S & S Creations for \$40.00. Considering a tremendous amount of history went up in smoke when the Town was burned out twice, the publication by Ted Leahy is a treasure trove on the history of Bruce Mines and surrounding area.

***Rydal Bank Historical Society:**

Jean Hershey sent in the following report:

Rydal Bank Historical Society is preparing a presentation for Heritage Month at the Bruce Mines and Plummer Additional Union Public Library. A slide presentation will show the contrast between the Rydal Bank of the past and the community of today. Everyone is welcome to drop in to see this display. A letter of appreciation was sent to the Four & Friends for their donation.

Library – no report

Recreational Committee – no report

Royal Canadian Legion – no report

Lions Club: - no report

SnoGlyders – no report

Agricultural Society: - no report

Horticultural Society:- no report

Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce: (old report)

Pat Peterson reported:

Bruce Mines Chamber is a member of Sault Ste Marie Chamber distribution of our brochures, we can attend their Take 5 and seminars.

BMCOC members can participate in their plans by joining the SSMCOC at an associate rate of \$ 108.00 + hst eg, special rates for credit cards, Group Insurance, UPS small package shipping freight,

Trade Fair - Barter in Bruce Mines:

The goal is to have the event in May on Mother's Day weekend

Joint Advertising Committee: (old report)

Mike Peever asked that Plummer Additional join this committee and work with the chamber to increase business visibility.

***Algoma Kinnewabi Tourist Association:**

Pat Peterson reported:

Membership is now due. Member ship fee changed last year and the price went up so the Town and the Chamber shared the gold membership. Cost is \$ 367.25 It has to be decided if the Town and Chamber wish to share a membership for 2014 .Should be receiving the invoice any day now. The invoice will be emailed to me and I can forward it to the Town care of Donna Brunke

A motion should be passed to pay the membership for AKTA in full or shared with the Town if they wish to participate.

It is also time to start thinking about the full page add in the Algoma Outdoors book. If any businesses are interested on participating they should speak with Michael Peever as it is now in the planning stages.

Motion: Pat Peterson + Jean Hershey that the Chamber pay for the membership fee of \$367.25

***North Channel Marine Tourism Association: - Pat Peterson gave the following report;**

The General Meeting is being held in Spanish on April 11/15th.

Just received the registration form on Mar 3. Cost is \$ 75.00 I believe the Town agreed to pay for this at the last Chamber meeting

We have received the invoice for the Shopping Bags \$200.00 and Larry has it. \$100.00 to be paid by the Chamber and the other \$100.00 I believe was to be paid by the Town or Marina

The name on the bag will be www.brucemineschamber.ca . George Cragg has redesigned the home page for the Chamber of Commerce and made a tab for the Marina so boaters will have easy access to the Marina information as it is a direct link to the Town's web site and the marina page.

Edith Orr indicated that the Fresh Water Coalition may be interested in participation in this project.

Motion : Pat Peterson + Brian Torrance that the Chamber participate in the Shopping Bag project for \$200.00 - carried

North Channel Geocache Event – old report

The need for someone to head up this event and is knowledgeable in setting co-ordinates. Pat Peterson did an incredible job in researching, planting and setting up geocaches along the Nip N'Tuck railroad from Bruce Mines to Rock Lake. We just need someone who is knowledgeable and enthusiastic about geocaching and being able to set the co-ordinates of the various treasures.

Chamber Facebook – (old report)

Mike Peever reported that Facebook page continues to grow in popularity. There are over 100 people checking into the site.

ADSAB – (old report)

Crystal Reader has reported that she has been invited to sit in a meeting with ADSAB to review the grades 7 & 8 going to CASS. This is in preparation for more grades going to CASS.

Arena: -

Lory Patteri reported that on Feb. 19th – joint meeting with Town and Township with the Arena Engineer on the repairs at Bruce Station at 7:00 p.m.

Medical Centre:

Lory Patteri reported on the renovations of the medical centre for the new pharmacy.

Canada Day –

Lory Patteri reported that the grant application funding for the last Saturday in June is limited to “Heritage Day”. Dates are under study.

Welcome Package for New Residents – (old Report)

Letters from the town and township should be included as well as an invitation to join the Chamber. Suggestion that an invitation to join the Chamber could include a discounted or complimentary one year membership.

Business Student Scholarships –

Mike Peever noted that a donation to a scholarship that would be administered by the school would probably be our best option. He will investigate further.

2015 Citizen of the Year:

Larry Peterson reported that Cheryl Harvey is the 2015 Citizen of the Year which is being held at the Bruce Mines Community Hall on Friday February 27, 2015. Cheryl's major involvement in feeding the children at the Arthur Henderson Public School – many of whom attend school without breakfast. Cheryl is one of our guardian angels ensuring that our next generation are well nourished and educated.

Miscellaneous: - (old report)

Howie Bowes suggested that we should have a presence in the Ermatinger Old Stone House on Bay St in the Sault. We could be advertising our Mine Shaft attractions, Bruce Mines being the first Copper Mine, etc. Our Copper Mine history also has the potential to lead to designation of a “National Historic Site” which could bring related funding and destination tourism.

Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition –

Edith Orr thanked the chamber in co-hosting the governance seminar. There was wonderful positive feedback from the David Hartley Seminar. The workshop with Hartley was about \$4,000.00 – all costs included.

The Hall Custodian was excellent in assisting in the hall setup

“Tracking your Dollars” – Feb. 26, 2015 – a very hands on “how to” on finances.

March 5th – “Growing your Dollars”

Brian Torrance + Jean Hershey that the Chamber donate \$100.00 for each seminar in Feb. and March – carried

Sharon Hunter:

Sharon has completed the one highway mural in the Iron Bridge area. Sharon is now working on the highway mural for the Township of Plummer Additional and Town area. Sharon expressed her outlines on the various themes. It will be 8' x 16' mural. Sharon would appreciate any comments or suggestions on the themes for the proposed mural.

Local Promotion: (old report)

We need someone to take on local projects like dressing up as a pirate walking the street like someone did in 2014. Traffic was stopping, people were taking pictures of the pirate. Have someone operate to cotton candy machine on weekends.

Miscellaneous:

Legion;

Lory Patteri commented about the Legion publishing a book of veterans. The Town is doing a business card advertisement of \$275.00

Heartnhands is thinking of using the marina shelter or for local artisans and crafts.

Next Meeting: Tuesday March 03, 2015 at the Union Library

Executive Meeting – TBA

Adjournment: at 9:20 a.m.