

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, May 5th 2015 – 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
Sharon Hunter – Black Bird North Arts
Jean Hershey – Rydal Bank Historical Society
Rick O’Hara – Town Councillor
Brian Torrance – Torrance Custom Interiors
Valyne Price – Employment Solutions
Cheryl MacKay – North Channel Current.CA
Arlene Romberg – Wyz Gyz Chip Wagon
Mike Jones – Township Councillor
Crystal Reader – Union Library

Guests: none

Regrets: Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
Marla McPhee – M & J Hair Boutique

Call to Order:

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

Past Minutes:

Larry Peterson + Arlene Romberg that the minutes of April 07, 2015 be adopted as presented - carried

Treasurer’s Report:

Larry Peterson + Brian Torrance that the Treasurer’s report be adopted as presented. – carried

Special Projects;

Sharon Hunter – Presentation:

Sharon is undertaking Elders/Seniors Creative Workshop – proposed locations – Bathewana, St. Joseph Island, Bruce Mines, Thessalon, Blind River, etc. Start in February 2016 for 4 months. Project is to tell Elders’ stories in art form. Local expense would be a donation of location. The Grant Application is due in October 2015 and would appreciate community feedback and letters of support.

Sharon just finished a Mural located west of Bruce Mines....the mural is up for a year....deadline is April 2016. Sharon is looking at \$5,000.00 purchase price for the mural – the sign location is rented from MTO.

Barter in Bruce Mines:

Scheduled for Saturday May 9, 2015 – the town hall and outdoors will be used. Vendors can rent tables and there are yard sales throughout the town. Arrangements can be made through Michael Peever at Mae-Ger Treasures.

Michael Peever purchased a helium tank which will fill balloons on May 9th

The tables in the community hall are all sold out. Tents will be put up to help accommodate outdoor sales tables.

Posters are being put up all over the area.

Facebook:

The Chamber Facebook is available to promote upcoming events with photos. 351 hits on the Artisan Group. Michael is getting more and more interactive comments. – 20 questions are coming in every 2 or 3 days

The Facebook and Social media seminar took place on Thursday April 9th at the Bruce Mines Community Hall. Michael Peever commented the importance of Google Analytics . 50 to 60 people attended the seminar and was successful which was jointly sponsored by the Chamber and Freshwater Coalition.

Valyne Price, Crystal Reader and Michael Peever would be willing to do up an introductory course on Facebook for businesses. Michael is administrator for numerous businesses who use Facebook.

Michael Peever and Vernon Bailey are planning to do a survey on how people find out about the auctions....

Volunteer Organization:

Crystal has agreed to create a data base of volunteers who would be willing to do various jobs needed around the town.

Cultural Events:

Since the disbanding of Four & Friends Art show & Sale, there appears to be a need to develop a cultural event. Decades ago there used to be a Heritage Event. Sharon Hunter and Brian Torrance will look into what this event could be developed.

Artisan Group: (old report)

Marla McPhee reported that the Artisan Market is being developed at the town water front. The money will go to the Marina funding. Marla McPhee, Ruth MacInnes, Kit Koivisto, Taya Mara are on the committee.

The Artisan Market is a new venture for the Town of Bruce Mines, aiming to bring the community together through local talent, artistic expression and satisfying food. The market is hoping to provide an opportunity for the community to gather and enjoy a sampling of the many talents found in our area. Talents that range from live music, jewelry, art, homemade food and baked goods, fresh produce, old world sourdough and other healing therapies like reflexology and massage.

The market will be held at the waterfront under both the pavilion and the gazebo once a month from May to September. Dates and Times are as follows:

Friday May 15th – from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m
Sat. June 13th – Cruisin Car Show from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Friday June 26th – from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m
Friday July 31st – from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m
Friday Aug. 14th – from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m
Friday Sept. 4th – from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m
Contact: email: theartisanmarket2015@gmail.com
Telephone Marla: 705-785-3726

Motion: Larry Peterson + Crystal Reader that the Chamber donate \$100.00 + a free membership to the group in the Chamber of Commerce for 2015 – carried

Joint Advertising Committee: (old report)

Michael Peever is aware that many organizations do not have money to promote their various activities. There is a need for a Community Calendar which can be updated on a daily basis. Mike, Lory and Mike Jones are willing to meet to discuss how to approach this issue. Larry mentioned about a 6 sided kiosk with cedar shake roof and a keeper of the key to keep the information updated. There would be an area for people to put in their brochures.

Welcome Package: (old report)

Mike will collect whatever information has been collected to date. Perhaps a little flier can be given out to new residents at the Town Offices, the Library and any other place and have the new residents contact the Chamber. Arlene will check with Muellers for small gift bags.

GeoThermal: (old report)

Mike Jones reported that he received from Peter Spik a report on the geothermal project and wondered if it was still alive. Brian gave a status report. There is a geothermal firm in Sault Ste. Marie who are interested in the possibilities in Bruce Mines.

Policy & Procedures: (old report)

Arlene and Pat have been working on roughing out a Policy and Procedures for the Chamber . Larry reported that he is checking out Abuse Policy from other organizations in order to create a policy for the Chamber.

French Fryer/Cotton Candy Machine:

The Town is planning to do the Car show for 2015 – the french frier will be there. It is the second Saturday in June 13, 2015. Arlene Romberg and Larry Peterson will check out the friers.

Canada Day/Community Day:

The exact date has not yet been determined – it depends on the fireworks operator.

Web Site:

Arlene Romberg is working with George Craig on updating the Chamber website.

Membership: (old report)

Memberships renewals sent out by email – very poor results. Hence we need to send it out with hard copy.

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

Simpson Mine Shaft:

Rick O'Hara reported that students have been hired, maintenance projects. Students will run the site for July and August. There is a need for a volunteer from May 24th weekend to Thanksgiving in October

Bruce Mines Historical Society: no report

Rydal Bank Historical Society:

Jean Hershey submitted the following report;

The Rydal Bank Historical Society will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, June 7 at the Rydal Bank Hall. Election of officers and reports will be presented. A potluck supper as well as the annual church service will follow the meeting.

The Historical Topic for the meeting will be "Stories I Know About Rydal Bank" and will feature a round table exchange of anecdotes and stories related to the community. Some of the stories will be connected to articles which have been recently donated to the Society. The public is invited to attend and to contribute stories.

The church service will be held on Sunday June 7th at 7:00 p.m. with Brian Mundell leading the service at the Rydal Bank Church

Library: 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.

North Channel Marine Tourism Association:

Pat Peterson was not able to attend the annual meeting and has requested a report on the subject covered at the meeting.

Algoma Kinnewabi Tourist Association: no report

North Channel Geocache Event: (old report)

A notice will go up on the website for students who may be interested in taking on this project. Arlene will contact Charlie Cook at CASS

ADSAB: no report

Arena: (old report)

Lory Patteri reported they are working with Tulloch Engineering to enable contractors to examine the site to prepare their tenders. There is a private individual who may be interested in purchasing the arena.

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.

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: –(old report)

Edith Orr announced

Saturday May 30th workshop – Protect Your Property Investment – speaker will be Pam Jarhling, realtors, home inspectors and many other important speakers.

Miscellaneous: none

Next Meeting: Tuesday June 2, 2015 at the Union Library at 8:00 a.m.

Executive Meeting – TBA

Adjournment: at 9:00 a.m.