

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, July 5, 2016 – UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY – 8:00 A.M.
WEBSITE: www.brucemineschamber.com
Email: info@brucemineschamber.com

Present:

Michael Peever – Mae-Ger Treasures
Arlene Romberg – Wyz-Gyz French Fries
Larry Peterson – Peterson & Peterson Law Firm
Jim McCulloch – Retired
Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
Bill Gunn – Fine Pine Things
Cheryl MacKay – North Channel Current
Michelle Martin – Employment Solutions
Lois Hart – Registered Psychotherapist

Guests:

None

Regrets:

Marla McPhee – M & J Hair Boutique
Heidi Werner – Wooden Boxes

Call to Order:

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

Past Minutes:

Motion: Larry Peterson + Arlene Romberg that the minutes of June 07, 2016 be adopted - *carried*

Treasurer's Report:

Motion: Larry Peterson – Cheryl MacKay that the Treasurers report be adopted as presented – *carried*

Community Day + Cruisin Car show:

Sales – popcorn \$82.00 + frier \$957.00 = \$1,039.00 less costs of \$600.00. The fireworks was spectacular. It was Sandy Gardner's barge that made a big difference for public display.

Johnson Farmers Market:

Farmers market in Bruce Mines is to start tomorrow – Wed. July 06th from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Edith Orr announced "Strut Your Stuff Day" for August 6, 2016 – vendors are invited to participate.

Edith also announced "Freggie@The Market" from June 11th to Sept. 10th

Edith also announced "Eat Algoma" – Sat. Sept. 17, 2016 – chef's competition in Desbarats.

Marina Committee:

Jim McCulloch reported that Gardner is reconnecting 14 new anchors which has disappeared and are being replaced.

Bruce Mines & District Historical Society:

Brian Hepburn from Ophir- a stone mason called Bill Gunn about the Historical Society. Brian was referred to the President, Ron Smith. The project concerns the deteriorating steps and walls. Brian thinks the cost of rebuilding the steps is \$10,000.00.

The Chamber is favourable disposed to working with the Historical Society depending on what is involved.

Insurance:

The policy has been amended and renewed with the premium of \$1,476.00

T Shirts Project:

Heidi Werner sent in a report that the T-shirts are on sale at the Marina and Mariners Cove. To date the sales are \$325.00

Marla McPhee sent in a note that she is willing to sell the T-shirts in your Boutique.

Bill Gunn reported that Cliffe Printing has the Chamber logo which he will ask be copied and returned to the Chamber for us to use.

Jim McCulloch will work with Heidi on what to reorder in anticipation of Fall Fair and future sales

Algoma Kinnewabi Travel Association:

Pat Peterson presented the publication – the Chamber has taken a full page advertisement \$2,500.00 + tax. 1 business has refused to pay their advertisement. There are 55,000 copies printed + put out on AKTA website for downloading.

For the 2017 publication we need to pre-sell the advertisements.

Placemat Project:

A sample of the placemat/brochure was presented at the meeting.

Bruce Mines Brochure:

There is a need to review, amend and reprint the brochure with the change of businesses taking place.

Canada's Centennial 2017:

Heidi Werner sent in a report that (1) they are still gathering information for grant applications (2) they need Chamber information which Jim McCulloch is looking into (3) Brian Torrance and Peggy Wallace are working on organizations past experience to ensure we are able to do the project (4) need to work out a budget (5) next meeting is Wed. July 13th at the library at 7:00 p.m.

The Chamber has paid \$508.39 for the tulips.

The Horticultural Society is interested in participating on the committee.

The Chamber needs to have a new banner and signage promoting the chamber.

Green Expo – Sustain Algoma Expo

Heidi Werner sent in a report that North Channel Current, Wooden Boxes and the Chamber are the only ones who have signed up for the Expo. We need 3 more businesses. Heidi will follow up on other next week. Heidi would appreciate any suggestions as to whom to approach. The Email blast had no results as far as she is aware

Heidi Werner reported that 48 feet of exclusive dedicated space to Chamber members. The budget is \$200.00 for the booth – banner 72 x 30 - \$125.00 – 2 signs @ \$50.00, table cloths – total budget \$675.00

Pat said the Chamber has red table skirting which may be useful. The Library may have numerous white table cloths used for the Library Gala.

Motion Pat Peterson + Brian Torrance that the Chamber donate \$675.00 to the Green Expo project - **carried**

Background information:

Edith Orr reported on Sat. July 23, 2016 The Green Expo will take place at Johnson Township Community Centre from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m..

The Green Expo originated in 2009 and continued annually through to 2014 to promote exciting environmental projects. In 2015 the organizing committee decided on a new direction and “Sustain Algoma Expo” was born. This fun family event promotes living sustainably and features a diverse variety of exhibitors, kids activities and local food with a focus on sustainable Algoma Communities.

Edith recommended the Chamber purchasing a table to promote numerous businesses and local attractions on the one table. Brian Torrance + Cheryl MacKay + Heidi Werner have agreed to organize this event

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at the Union Library at 8:00 a.m.

Executive Meeting:

TBA

Adjournment:

at 9:00 a.m.

*****previous reports*****

Joint Meeting & Municipal Attitudes & Business Attitudes:

It is reported that the Township needs amendment to fire agreement to include grass fires – Town will act on grass fires but won't put it in writing.

Arena – there are 2 conflicting proposals from the Agricultural Society.

There is a general feeling that many municipalities do not see themselves as a stimulus for business development which is in their mandate and a very important element of their mandate that is being ignored. Municipals are to be the ambassadors of their local businesses – not to put those businesses down.

Tiams Report – online – is free software that will calculate the economic impact a particular event will have on a community.

The Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre – has programs and information on what has economic impacts on a community.

East Algoma Community Futures – Shawn Heard from Blind River is a strong supporter for the area.

We need to obtain information as to the economic impact of the upcoming Classic Car Show/Community Night.

Some are amazed at the resentment and negative attitudes of the area which is totally senseless. There is a need for development for a community spirit. A price tag cannot be put on every event.

A number of local businesses do not support local events because “they are the only business in town” and feel they don’t have to contribute in any way whatsoever as they benefit from the events anyway.

Library:

Interviews are being made for the new CEO . There are 2 board positions open which the Municipality will fill AFTER the hiring of the new CEO.

Lake Huron Cycling Trail:

Cheryl reported that there are trails from Sudbury to Sault Ste. Marie – Bruce Mines hosted a morning meeting for the by cyclists. Cheryl participated in the cycling to Echo Bay. The MTO has committed to paving highway shoulders for cyclists. This is a fabulous event.

Volunteer Fair:

What about putting on a volunteer get-together over a BBQ of burgers, etc. and invite the younger (and older) members of the community to come out and get involved.

North Channel Marine Tourism Council:

Jim McCulloch reported the Annual Conference on April 15 & 16, 2016 – it was an excellent meeting. The report is attached to these minutes. Facebook is the major medium but it requires a designated person to update the information – 2 hours a week.

North Channel Marine Tourism Council is planning to develop a Facebook page which Bruce Mines would take advantage of. On average boaters spend \$200.00 per day at port. Jim showed the Marina Shopping Bag with various fliers in it. Jim is also on the Board of Directors.

Memberships:

Arlene Romberg reviewed past 4 years of memberships – to date our paid up memberships are ahead of past years – many memberships come in late spring and early summer when businesses open for the season.

PayPal:

We should think about adding a tab to the Chamber website for “paypal” and another tab for “donations” for the business scholarships, etc. Arlene will be in touch with George Cragg about web designs

Marina Brochure:

Jim McCulloch reported and presented the brochure of the Marina. Special thanks to Pat Peterson and George Cragg for their valuable contributions. Special thanks also to Jim McCulloch who did a tremendous amount of work to put the brochure together.

Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition:

No report

Rydal Bank Historical Society:

No report

Simpson Mine Shaft:

No report

Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce:

Pat Peterson reported that the Soo Chamber is now on Facebook so you can “like” them and receive their upcoming events

Grant Application Program *(post meeting)*

Valerie Harting sent an email to Larry Peterson offering her experience, time and talent in preparing Grant Applications for any organization who wishes to apply. This is one offer the two Historical Societies and the Chamber cannot afford to let slip by.

Arena:

No report

Donation Boxes:

They are in – signs promoting the CASS business student scholarship is being made up.

Artisan Market:

No report

Library:

No report

Welcome Package:

No report

GeoThermal:

No report

Policy & Procedures:

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.

Web Site:

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

Membership:

No report

Library:

No report

Royal Canadian Legion:

No report

Lions Club:

No report

Executive

President – Arline Connell

Secretary – Carol Rickard

Treasurer – Patsy Golec

Meetings held 1st Thursday of the month from September to June at Light Haven, 7:30pm.

SnoGlyders

No report

President Chris McMillan phone number is 705-941-8700 and email anglerchris@bell.net.

Agricultural Society:

No report

Horticultural Society:

No report

2016 officers are: : Betty-Jean Smith as President; Paula Matheson as Vice-President and Maggie Willis Secretary-Treasurer. Interesting stats: membership for 2015 = 73 which is 26% higher than previous year AND our volunteer hours increased by 30% - enthusiastic momentum in our group.

North Channel Geocache Event:

No report

ADSAB:

No report

Miscellaneous:

None