

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, Aug. 02, 2016 – 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
Brian Torrance – Torrance Custom Interiors
Jim McCulloch – Retired
Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
Michelle Martin – Employment Solutions
Lois Hart – Registered Psychotherapist
Rick O'Hara – Town Councillor
Ruth McInnes – Heart & Hands
Heidi Werner – Wooden Boxes

Guests:

None

Regrets:

Bill Gunn – Fine Pine Things
Cheryl MacKay – North Channel Current
Arlene Romberg – Wyz-Gyz French Fries

Call to Order:

Michael Peever called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Past Minutes:

Motion: Larry Peterson + Lois Hart that the minutes of July 05, 2016 be adopted - **carried**

Treasurer's Report:

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

AKTA:

Pat Peterson reported that a full page advertisement is in the process of being designed and businesses that want adv. space need to contact Pat to hold their spot. Cost of the adv. space is the same as other years - \$111.25. The Town has been notified about sharing the costs for the banner header and footer.

Algoma Sno-Plan:

Pat Peterson – reported that Algoma Country is in the process of selling and designing the Algoma Sno Plan Map. In previous years the Chamber and Town have shared advertising space. The cost for 3.5" x 2" space is \$300.00 + tax. The Town has indicated that they will do so again this year.

Motion: Pat Peterson + Brian Torrance that the Chamber share with the Town the cost advertisement of \$169.50 – **carried**

Sustain Algoma:

Heidi Werner reported 200-300 people came through. The Chamber had a great presence. The Chamber booth looked good. Bruce Bay Cottages & Mariners Cove were there – had a tourism flavour to it.

T-Shirt Project:

Heidi Werner reported that about 30 t-shirts sold. They are popular and there are requests for sweat shirts and hoodies. Marla’s, Mine Shaft, Cove are selling the t-shirts.

Canada 150:

Heidi Werner reported that she completed the application for \$50,000.00. There was a meeting with Legion, Lions, SnoGlyder, Freshwater Coalition, Horticultural Society, Rydal Bank Historical Society, Agricultural Society. All are enthusiastic but limited financially. Heidi has 4 letters of support – one from the Town.

Theme: Come Home to Main Street Canada

- Canada Day is the Home Coming Day across the country. It is to be a 3 day weekend – Friday – BBQ + Sat. Local Tours, concert, fireworks, dance + Sun.
- May – January – Concert Series are being planned.
- Fall Fair Concert – being planned
- Journey of Love – concert being planned

Organizations have to contribute “in kind” - this is being worked on

A wagon is a method of choice over canopies which are subject to wind problems
Revenue is to be raised from family rates and modified family rates + sponsorships from businesses.

This fall will be a “working fall” – tulips have to be planted, work on sponsorships, work on social media,

Motion: Lois Hart + Pat Peterson - that the Chamber accept the Committee’s proposal for Canada 150 and submit the funding application to the government.- **carried**

Community Day + Cruisin Car Show:

There were comments about whether it was advantage to combine the 2 events. The Car Show is well organized and the Community Day event took away from the car show.

The general consensus is to keep the 2 events separate. Is it necessary to have a parade? Why not have something else. Parade participants were few and far between.

Chamber Storage Building:

Pat Peterson thinks there should be a fall clean-up + inventory of what is there.
Lois will organize the shed clean-up sometime in September.

Chamber Face Book Page:

Heidi has offered and the Chamber agreed that Heidi be one of the administrators for the Chamber Facebook page.

Next Meeting: Next Meeting – Tuesday, September 06, 2016 at the Union Library at 8:00 a.m.

Executive Meeting – TBA

Adjournment: at 9:00 a.m.

Johnson Farmers Market:

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

Algoma Kinniwabi 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.

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.

Bruce Mines Brochure:

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

Insurance:

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

Placemat Project:

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

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 to 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 is 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 Cragg on updating the Chamber website.

Membership:

No report

Library:

No report

Royal Canadian Legion:

No report

Bruce Mines & District 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