

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, Sept. 06, 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
Arlene Romberg – Wyz-Gyz French Fries
Jim McCulloch – Retired
Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
Lois Hart – Registered Psychotherapist
Heidi Werner – Wooden Boxes
Edith Orr – Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition
Cheryl MacKay – North Channel Current

Guests: None

Regrets: None

Call to Order:

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

Past Minutes:

Motion: Larry Peterson + Cheryl MacKay that the minutes of August 02, 2016 be adopted - *carried*

Treasurer's Report:

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

New Businesses:

Michael Peever reported that:
A new Pizza Parlour is being planned for Bruce Mines
A new Gift Shop is being planned for Bowes Building

Other new businesses are:

The Nip N Tuck General Store at Mariners Cove
Pretty Little Red Necks at Mariners Cove
Marcia Grueter – Sense of Colour

There should be some type of welcome package from the Chamber.
A free membership certificate + info on the benefits of being a member

Motion: Jim McCulloch + Pat Peterson that Edith Orr and Arlene Romberg be designated as a Member Committee - *carried*

Marina Business:

A local boater was at another Marina – excited about receiving a Marina Bag and found Bruce Mines information in it. The local boater wanted to know what the local Marina is going in promoting itself.

Jim McCulloch knows of a number of new boaters who visited and spent time in Bruce Mines purely as a result of the Boaters Bags being given out along the North Shore.

Rydal Bank Historical Society:

Jean Hershey sent in the following report:

The Rydal Bank Historical Society has been working on a variety of projects this summer:

- An application for Ontario 150 Capital Grant has been submitted for a new roof can be installed on the Rydal Bank Community Hall has been prepared and submitted
- The Heritage Collection of the Society has received two new additions through donations from Robert Allen of Thessalon. The first is a framed photograph of Gordon Lake taken in 1911 and the second is an antique butter bowl that belonged to Robert McLarty who was the owner of McLarty Mill.
- The Rydal Bank Community Hall will once again be one of the locations for artists on the Sylvan Circle Tour and the Society will be serving their popular soups and biscuits
- The Annual Thanksgiving Supper will be held at the Rydal Bank Hall on Thanksgiving Monday, October 10. The first sitting for the dinner will be at 4:00pm.

Bruce Mines & District Historical Society:

Glen Ansell sent in the following report:

2016 visitor attendances at museum are slightly ahead of 2015

Visitor comments about the museum were almost universally positive

Summer student, Regina Madimbu was an asset to the museum – has returned to the Maritimes to finish her nursing degree .Regina was an exemplary student tour guide. Regina advanced the digitization of museum artifacts.

Algoma Kinnewabi Travel Association (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. All spaces are now sold.

Browns Island Little Free Library:

Cheryl MacKay – a box filled with children and adult books – take one – leave one. There are 40,000 around the world – there are a couple of places in Ontario with the little free library. There is 1 location in Soo, Michigan – none in Algoma District.

Each location has to be registered \$45.00 which gives a plaque to be put on the box.

Bruce Mines box could be nautical in design with a copper roof. Some of the sitting benches have a “dog hook” to attach the dog leash to. There is a need for a Steward to monitor the project.

Cheryl has agreed to head up this project.

Jim has agreed to build a kiosk and have it ready for the Spring.

Motion: Pat Peterson + Lois Hart that Cheryl MacKay and Jim McCulloch head up the Little Free Library Project - *carried*

Farmers Market:

An analysis is being prepared for October

Teeny Tinny Summit:

David Trivers approached Edith Orr about bringing in the Summit. This could be a joint project with the Chamber and another Organization on how to develop the community.

The speaker would have to be booked for the spring of 2017. It would be regional in coverage – Echo Bay to Iron Bridge ?

Some players could be Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition, Johnson Twp Farmers Market, Algoma Food Association, maybe the Agricultural Ministry, maybe the Ministry of Northern Affairs.

Motion: Lois Hart + Jim McCulloch that the Chamber support the Teeny Tinny Summit project and to be kept informed about this project - **carried**

Marina Brochure:

Jim McCulloch reported the marina brochure has to be updated – there are 850 bags to be distributed – we need 850 brochures + extras. This will have to be done in October and November in time for the annual meeting of the North Shore Marine Association. There was suggestion of having photos in the brochure – photos enhance the brochure. A brochure about the Centennial 150 could also be included in the bags.

Fall Fair:

The chamber will set up a tent to sell t-shirts and hand out brochures. Michael Peever will loan his tent for this event..

Centennial 150:

Heidi Werner reported that the application has been sent in for \$49,000.00. The town is expecting a little presentation. The Committee is #3 on the Town agenda this evening. There is a need to sell the benefit of this committee.

Volunteer Appreciation:

Lois Hart feels that Citizen of the Year is an excellent event to show appreciation to a particular individual(s). There is a need to show appreciation to many people. A luncheon ?A soup and sandwich at 6:00 a.m. with a Chamber meeting at 7:00 p.m. Ask the Town to donate the Community Hall or the Lighthouse Lounge for this event. All volunteers – children to adults
Jocelyn Twp has a dessert event for their volunteers at 7:00 p.m.

Motion: Heidi Werner + Cheryl MacKay will work with Lois Hart a dessert night for all volunteers – **carried.**

Motion: Heidi Werner + Lois Hart that a soup and sandwich event for chamber members be planned for the future.

Need More Time:

There is so much energy at the meeting – we need more time for the meetings.

Next Meeting:

Next Meeting – Tuesday, October 04 2016 at the Union Library at 8:00 a.m.

Executive Meeting:

TBA

Adjournment:

at 9:30 a.m.

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

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

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.

Johnson Farmers Market:

No report

Marina Committee:

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

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.

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:

No report

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.

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

Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition:

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.

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