

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, April 4, 2017 – 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
Edith Orr – Johnson Farmers Market
Jim McCulloch – Retired
Lois Hart – Registered Psychotherapist
Richard O’Hara – Town Councillor
Joyce Boismier – French Fry Committee
Cheryl McKay – North Channel Current
Michelle Martin – Employment Solutions

Guests:

None

Regrets:

Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
Heidi Werner – Wooden Boxes

Call to Order:

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

Past Minutes:

Motion: Larry Peterson + Lois Hart that the minutes of Tuesday March 07, 2017 be adopted - ***carried***

Treasurer Report:

Larry Peterson + Lois Hart that the Treasurer’s Report be adopted as presented.

Motion: Larry Peterson + Cheryl McKay that the Chamber send in the \$100.00 scholarship cheque to CASS.

Citizen of the Year:

Michael Peever read a letter of appreciation from Maggie Willis our 2017 Citizen of the Year.

Sustain Algoma:

Edith Orr reported that Sustain Algoma – Saturday June 3, 2017 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.– same day as the opening of the Johnson Farmers Market

Canada 150:

Jim McCulloch reported that the committee received \$4,000.00 in grants. The money from Trivia Night will be benefit the fundraising.

Trivia Nights:

Jim McCulloch reported \$2,000.00 approximately was raised – the winning table donated the \$500.00 prize to the Canada 150 committee. Approximately 130-150 people were in attendance. Heidi Werner and her team did a fantastic job as did Peter Werner as Master of Ceremonies.

Insurance:

Edith Orr reported she is working with Algoma Insurance on updating the insurance coverage.

For volunteer insurance coverage – all volunteers who worked at Trivia Night all signed a volunteer sheet to clearly identify who are volunteers and who are not.

Pal Insurance (Party Alcohol Liability) was issued to cover Trivia Night.

Larry reported that the Chamber has to be prepared to pay a premium of \$2,114.08 in May 2017 being \$1,476.76 for general liability + \$637.32 for directors/officer's liability. Edith reported that those amounts will change with a drop in content insurance but an increase in general liability coverage.

Membership Report:

Edith Orr submitted the following membership report:

Thanks goes out to Arlene & Francine for their help.

Membership Report as of March 31st, 2017

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
						On line	Printed Directory
<i>Recorded Contacts</i>	<i>29 Members</i>	<i>36 Members</i>	<i>29 Members</i>	<i>40 Members</i>	<i>43 Members</i>	<i>52 Members</i>	<i>11</i>

The current membership of 52

Business: 36 - 11 new to 2017; 3 of the 11 were members in past years; (new members Algoma Ancestry Services; Brian Cameron Trucking Inc; Isaac & Anna Weber Farmgate Sales; Jerry's Live Bait & Rock Shop; Light Haven Home Inc; Manfred Rupp Trucking; McClelland Hardware & Feed; Nip & Tuck General Store; North Channel Heating & Air Conditioning)

Organizations: 14

Individuals: 2

Total for the printed Directory is now 11

Total supporting the work of the Chamber 63 at present.

A thank goes out to George who has been very accommodating as we streamline the process and update the membership information.

All new members and one business listing has been added to the Business Directory on the Website.

Several non- existent entities have been removed:

24 blue highlights with asterisks have been removed (ie non-members)

17 blue highlights with asterisks have been added (ie members)

5 one page ads have been created for new businesses without websites.

Currently:

1. *Need to distribute new member plaques and stickers to members who have renewed their membership.*
2. *About ½ of the previous business descriptions have been updated. Hopefully the other ½ will be completed by meeting time. Several members submitted payment but not the paperwork. This slows the process as previous information must be validated. (often it is out of date) Time consuming.*
3. *Contacting the previous supporters who have not yet signed up for the 2017 season. Two have asked to be removed; of the remaining 9 – two have indicated that they will be applying for membership.*
4. *Will continue to seek new membership as opportunity arises. Hope you will be as well.*
5. *There are 54 other listings of entities that are not yet members --- room to grow.*
6. *Will begin work on the printed directory – have two who have expressed interest but application not yet received*

Please let me know if you notice any errors or changes that need to be made.

The substantial increase is helped by the After 6 events even though the After 6 event losses money – it has helped increase our membership.

Algoma Kinniwabi:

Motion: Pat Peterson + Lois Hart that the Chamber pay the \$367.25 membership fee - ***carried***

Tom Thomson - Group of 7:

Pat Peterson sent in the following report:

Tom Thomson " Paints the Town" will be held on Sunday April 30th at 1:30. Posters are up and the Event planning is falling in place, Admission is by donation. Budget total is \$ 50.00 + cost for piper to lead parade down to the marina if I can find one. I had contacted CASS and was hoping to get a student but Mr Foster did not have any luck finding a musician. If anyone know someone who plays the bag pipes or flute please let me know. The donations will cover all costs. AKTA is providing projector plus equipment and gift for Michael Burtch plus will market to their lists and will do story on the Northern Portal. Set up for this event will start at noon if anyone can assist with set up please let me know.

Tourism Excellence North:

Pat Peterson reported Tourism Excellence North Assessment Tools: Joint Town of Bruce Mines, Plummer Additional, Johnson Township. Combining the 3 municipalities will offer a lot of tourist attractions. Pat hopes to have a report by the May meeting of the Chamber.

Health & Safety: (old report)

Michelle Martin reported that her organization will be able to meet the WHMIS program requirements

Barter in Bruce Mines: (old report)

Heidi Werner reported that she reached out to a small committee Lenny Smith, Marla McPhee, Eve Webb, Mariners Cover – sold 5 tables inside the Hall – yard sale, trunk sale, artisan sale,

Selling a yard sale kit - \$10.00 registration fee – balloons, signs and put on the map. This is set for May 13, 2017. \$20.00 for inside table \$10.00 for outside space – bring your own table – registration paid in advance.

Marketing Committee: (Heidi Werner/Edith Orr/Cheryl McKay/Larry Peterson)

Brochure

Edith reported that the Marketing Committee is putting the finishing touches on the Werner Brochure.

Motion: Edith Orr + Lois Hart that the Chamber approve the cost estimate of \$1,400.00 in the printing of the Werner Brochure – **carried**

Regional Economic Committee: (old report)

Edith Orr reported there is discussion on the Formation of a Regional Economic Committee from Prince Twp to Sagamok. There is a meeting tomorrow Wed. March 08, 2017 at 1:30 in Iron Bridge. There are 23+ entities – 5 are first nations. Looking at a Not-for-Profit Entity.

Customer Service Workshop:

Michelle reported that the Workshop is scheduled for May 16 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00p.m. Michelle is trying to find a poster to promote the event. Cheryl McKay is interested in developing a poster. Edith mentioned there is a large number of “home schoolers” who may be interested in the program.

The Customer Service Workshop 1.5 hour geared mainly to high school students – but open to everyone – need to get 10 students. Location at CASS Employment would hold the seminar – there may be a room charge at CASS which could be covered by the Chamber - \$10.00 - \$15.00

Soo Innovation Centre – BEAM SEMINAR:

Pat Peterson sent in the following report

BEAM Funding and E Commerce Seminar held on Fri March 31 held at the lighthouse lounge had 17 attendees register. It appears that at least 3+ attendees will be applying for the BEAM program and Angelo is willing to meet with all to advise them in what is the best for them . All attendees found the seminar to be very helpful.

Cost for this event to the Chamber is zero dollars

Thanks to Heidi for designing the poster for Social Media. SSM Innovation Center rented the Lighthouse Lounge. Angelo was very pleased and commented that we are Champions for organizing seminars East of the Sault.

Attending were 4 Chamber Members and 13 were non-members but gathering the crowd as we move forward and could be future members. We had attendees registered from St Joseph Island, Thessalon, Desbarats and Johnson Township. Several mentioned what a worthwhile seminar as the funding is impressive and thanked the Chamber for hosting this event.

After 6:

March 28th at Johnson Twp Community Centre – no report on the financial situation has been compiled yet. Featuring a business at the gathering has definite benefits in not only promoting the business but also the Chamber. The pharmacy donating a gift basket which was a pleasant thought and that went over well.

The next After 6 is set for May at the Town Waterfront with the unveiling of the Little Free Library.

Business Seminar:

Cheryl was approached by Tom Henschell – wife is a lawyer – owns the grocery store building in Richards Landing – offering a business start-up seminar in Richards Landing in April 2017 – a 5 hour seminar.

Little Free Library:

Jim McCulloch reported that it is almost complete. Cheryl obtained a plaque to promote the Little Free Library.

The structure ownership will remain with the Chamber.

Edith Orr wants to meet with the Town to do up a memorandum of agreement for the placing of the little free library on town property.

Will this structure be covered under the Town insurance or by Chamber insurance...this will have to be clarified.

The Waterfront Bicycling Trail:

Cheryl McKay is pursuing this project with the provincial organizers. Cheryl received a draft write-up about the Bruce Mines along with links to various local websites.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday May 2, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.