

Bridgewater and Area Chamber of Commerce
Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors
held on 3rd Feb 2017

Board Room, 186 North Street
Bridgewater, Nova Scotia

Present: Dan, Trevor, Lisa, Tina, Andrea, Andrew, Shawn, Brooke
Claudette, Bill

Additions to Agenda – Bus for Bridgewater Presentation, Chamber By Laws review, Date for AGM, Meeting Location Discussion

1. **Approval of Agenda** – MOTION to approve agenda by Andrew. SECONDED by Tina. CARRIED.
2. **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting** – MOTION to approve by Trevor. SECONDED by Brooke. CARRIED
3. **Financial Report**
It has been a transition phase with the move and loss of management of the building from King St. The financials from Feb will be only Chamber info and will give a better understanding of where we are. Until the business with the old building is wrapped up we won't have a good picture.
4. **Correspondence**
Dan received an email from French school re bursary. We currently give to Park View, Bridgewater, New Germany. Chamber gives \$200 and supporting business matches \$200 and the applicant must further their education in Business. MOTION made to include the French school by Trevor. SECONDED by Ryan Buck. CARRIED.
Corporate sponsor for this busary is Bucks.
5. **Old Business**

Storefront Contest

Winner was K&S Fashion. Dan to arrange a date for the presentation.

Mayors Breakfast De Brief

We had 70 RSVP's and 65 showed. After all was paid we ended up making \$180. Since the food is based on numbers the people who RSVP and don't show need responsibility to notify the Chamber if not coming in a reasonable amount of time. We will add a disclaimer on future invitations that if they don't show they will be invoiced for the cost. Best Western is the best location for these types of events in terms of cost and aesthetics.

Thought to consider for the next event – does it have to be sit down breakfast? Can it be continental?

6. New Business

Breakfast with MLA's

As of now we have 29 RSVP's. Dan sent flyer to MLA's office and Suzanne's office replied and said the date is now not good for her. So only Mark Fury will attend. A press release will go out on Monday.

Chamber By Laws Review / Meeting Location

Current order is President – Vice – 2nd Vice. The President has no vote unless there is a tie. The President may adjourn a meeting. Dan then read the responsibilities of the President. Dan will forward a copy of the by laws.

Regarding the change in meeting place for today's meeting – we wanted to open the meetings to Chamber members which meant we need a larger space. Shawn moved to Best Western and there was no charge to use this venue for today's meeting. For future meetings Tina said as they are a Chamber member we can use the space at the Best Western if available. There have been other businesses that have offered space but do we want to move meetings to different locations every month. Consensus is no – if we want members to attend we need a constant location. MOTION made to continue meetings at Best Western the first Friday of every month until the AGM by Andrew. SECONDED by Trevor. CARRIED

Was also mentioned that the Board of Directors have voting rights and if a tie the President votes. The point was made that if we are opening the meetings up to members should they not be able to vote as well? We will address at the next meeting.

Also suggested that at our monthly events open the first 10 mins to address any new business with the members that are attending.

Claudette asked if Dan had a job description and performance appraisal. Tina answered yes and it has been implemented. The Board approves the job description.

Signage at new location discussed and it was decided to hold off until we are situated as it's only been a month. However we can get something on the digital road sign.

The role of Bill (Town Rep), Claudette (MODL Rep) and Trevor (BPD Rep) are to bring information to the Chamber and how we can all work together for businesses in our area. Bill says he is here to hear from businesses. The Chamber used to have a huge input in the Town's budget process. More business needs to be done at general membership meeting. Need to give notice on topics being discussed at general membership meetings.

Need to get members interested in events and meetings. Try changing wording on events – not a breakfast but use words like networking, membership meeting...

We need to know what businesses need and look for to set up a business and locate in our area. We need to have a strong Chamber to represent business.

We did have 3 new members this month.

Dan will send minutes of meetings to Chamber members

Ken Young Introduction

From Young & Associates and is showing interest to become a member of the Board. Currently there is room for 3 members. Add to the agenda to vote on at next meeting. Add to newsletter that we are calling for nominations for 3 board members.

Date for AGM

Tentative – June 9 at 7:30 am Best Western

Brooke is not reoffering for Treasurer. Need a nominating committee for positions not reoffering.

7. Bus for Bridgewater

Currently suggesting 2 routes – 2 bus 2 route and a single loop. The single loop received the most votes at the open house. The goal is to serve both employees and day to day people. It was noted that through the International Student program the biggest complaint is that there is no transportation system here. The province has a public transit assistance program which the Town will apply for funding. Depending on the route that is decided commuters could be possible to reach areas outside of Town limits. The question was asked whether there could be a trial period with a smaller bus to see how much use it would get before a huge investment is made. Jessica will forward the info from the Jan 23 meeting.

Health Services Presentation

The radiothon this year will raise money for OR equipment and raises money for SS and Fishermans. The goal is to raise \$175,000 to replace 7 key pieces of equipment. Contact Allison if interested in volunteering in any way. If businesses would like to support SS Health Foundation, SS Health Foundation can help with marketing & promotion and provide volunteers to help with the business event. Allison to send info the Dan and he will send out to Chamber.

Bridgewater Police

Frauds are huge & growing targeting seniors. Common are from financial institutions, CRA and phone scams. Trevor to put together crime stats for area and come to next meeting to present. Suggested to have another Town Hall meeting and Trevor said he would talk to Scott and try to set something up.

8. Next Meeting: Friday March 3 at 8:30 am at Best Western**9. Adjournment** – meeting adjourned.