

Meeting Minutes for the Bridgewater & Area Chamber of Commerce

Call to order

A meeting of Bridgewater Chamber of Commerce was held at Town Hall Chambers on Nov 3th, 2017. Attendees included Bob Richards, Pres., Dan Hennessey, Exec Dir., Shawn Patterson, 1st V Pres., Emily MacKay, Secretary, Sherry Stewart-Spidle, Treasurer, Harry Rhyno, Director, Brooke Nodding, Director, Blair Lipsett, Director, Trevor Walters, 2nd V Pres, Bill MacInnis, Council Member and Lee Wallet, Director. Member not in attendance was Andrew Zinck, Director.

Approval of Agenda

Noted by Bob Richards, Pres & Dan Hennessey, Exec Dir, the Agenda set forth for today's meeting, received by all board members prior to the meeting. Judy Koster was unable to attend for the Chamber Chat presentation so that was removed from the agenda.

Correspondence

Dan Hennessey read email from Sherry Summerville from the Atlantic Chamber of Commerce offering their condolences regarding the recent fire devastation in Bridgewater.

Bob R. and Dan H. are meeting with Craig Collins, principle of NSCC, in regards to the NSCC Make Way campaign next Tuesday, Nov 14th to discuss the Chamber's involvement in the campaign. They will keep us updated. Discussion about putting in a booth at NSCC in support of the campaign; Blair L. supports the campaign, but is biased. Decision to participate was rendered. Dan H. is to find people to work this proposed booth.

Minutes approved

Approval for previous meetings minutes was asked for by Dan Hennessey. Amendment to the previous minutes was to note that Lee Wallet was present at the prior Oct 6th, 2017 meeting and Trevor Walters was not.

Motion

Was moved by Blair Lipsett, 2nd by Shawn Patterson. Motion Passed.

Old Business

The Energize Bridgewater Fair was discussed, Friday was slow at the booth, Saturday was more successful.

Legion donation of \$250 was approved and presented by Bob R. on behalf of the Chamber in support of Veterans Week Banner Campaign.

Bob R. met with the Police Chief Scott Feener to discuss the success of the Chamber Cam. It has been an effective deterrent to vandalism, and has already paid for itself. Publication of this meeting was in the South Shore Breaker October 17th.

Small Business week photo with Bob Richards, Emily MacKay, and Debra Porter was in the South Shore Breaker October 17th.

Donations, Contributions or Bursaries Policy #8 was approved on November 17th, 2017.

New Business

Items noted

- Special General Meeting to be held on Dec 6th, Tina Hennigar did a cross country tour to attract people to Lunenburg County. She will be presenting at the Dec 6th meeting. 25% of the membership is required to attend in order to pass the bylaws resolution.
- General discussion about the bylaw changes, they are on the BACC website.
- Brooke Nodding & Shawn Patterson are co-chairs of the Events & Welcoming Committee. General discussion in regards to doing the Best Decorated Storefront Contest again this year. Last year it was only offered to the businesses on King Street. Discussed expanding and including all of Bridgewater & Area and getting the word out electronically, as opposed to handing out flyers like last year. Winner will get a plaque and a write-up in the South Shore Breaker.
- Discussion about the fire in Bridgewater and general discussion about recognizing the devastation of the fires and offering the Chambers condolences to those affected on King Street in the paper.

Motion

Events committee motion to disseminate the Best Decorated Storefront Contest information electronically & in a targeted approach was moved by Brooke Nodding, 2nd by Trevor Walters, Directors. Motion Passed.

Reports

Dan Hennessey, Exec Director, asked Treasurer, Sherry Stewart-Spidle to report on the previous month's financials.

Sherry stated bank account balance at October 31st, as well as that copies of the financials were circulated to the Board previous to the meeting. It was noted that the membership base is still growing, comparatively to previous years; current membership is at an all-time high. No one had any questions or concerns.

Bob Richards volunteered the Home Centre as a sponsor next year.

Committee Status Reports

Brooke Nodding spoke about the Events Committee and a terms of reference has been drafted, They are looking for some members to add to the committee from the general membership. The Events committee will work on future events with Dan H.

Trevor Walters joined the Membership Committee.

Discussions

Dan H. discussed and reviewed his executor's report that was circulated prior to the meeting.

Blair Lipsett tabled going after non-traditional businesses that operate in our area to join the Chamber. To be put on a future agenda.

Harry Rhyno discussed the merits of polling our membership on the types of events that are offered, to be discussed further on a future agenda.

Discussion around the Chamber of Commerce becoming more involved with the Lunenburg Queens Business Excellence Awards. Inviting Shawn Allen to our December meeting to explore the option further.

Upcoming Event Announcements

Connecting Acadia with NSCC event, November 16th 10:00am-2:00pm, NSCC Lunenburg Campus

Speed Dating for Business, November 23rd 8:30-9:30AM, Fancy Pants Cafe

Chamber Holiday Skate, December 5th 5:30-7:20PM, LCLC

Special Membership Meeting, December 6th 8:00-9:30AM, Best Western Plus Hotel

Adjournment

Bob R. announced the end of the meeting and a 4 minute break, before beginning of presentation by Scott Feener, Chief of Police in Bridgewater. Special Presentation by Chief Feener was cancelled last minute as he could not arrive for his planned presentation on the opioid epidemic. Blair L. motioned to adjourn 2nd by Bob R.

Emily MacKay, Secretary

Nov 7th, 2017