



Bridgewater and Area
Chamber of Commerce

Agenda Board Meeting
March 12 2021
MODL Council Chambers

Regrets: Cheryl Fougere, Brooke Nodding

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting began at 8:35 a.m.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) Coastal Action request for Letter of Support.

Board had been contacted by Ariel Smith from Coastal Action concerning a funding request. Dan met with Coastal Action to discuss a potential partnership around their Capturing Freshwater Contaminants at the Source project. It was decided that the BACC should support the program and information was included in the spring edition of the Chambers Voice.

MINUTES

Meeting minutes from February Board Meeting approved.

CHAMBER CHAT: MODL 2040 Presentation by Darren Shupe

Darren Shupe of MODL met with the Chamber to discuss his role and his primary focus, MODL2040. In short, MODL2040 is a 20-year plan for the future of the municipality. Darren's job is to help facilitate the research and discussion around what residents envision for MODL as it pertains to the municipality's strategic planning documents and regulations. Public consultation will take place over the next two years and will include a variety of stakeholders. Darren explained that the process is more important than ever as things like climate change, broadband roll-out and more shape the future of the area. To date, the consultation process has yielded over 300 responses and Darren encouraged everyone to say their piece. The board agreed to help promote the project by sending out information on it in an email to membership as well as including

COMMITTEES

Educational (Brooke Nodding brooke@coastalaction.org; Blair Lipsett Blair.Lipsett@nsc.ca)

Blair said Lunch and Learn with Michael Smith went well. Several more sessions are lined up. There's also a specific spot on the new website where this info is available.

Government involvement (Jayme Rhyno jayme@rhynosltd.com)

Jayme said the committee had two meetings; one with Mark Powell and another with Mark Strickland. Minutes circulated by Leitha.

Community/Membership Engagement (Debra Porter dporter@royalpage.ca)

- 1) Mayors have agreed to further live chats. Committee had several ideas around how to engage with the public and membership around tourism and what those opportunities might look like. Lots of discussion around polls, advertising and supporting local but work needs to be done to better understand what membership needs help with – be that tourism or otherwise. Good idea to approach both ToB and MODL to potentially host a joint forum.
- 2) Chamber's Voice newsletter. To be published week of March 21st with three companies interviewed, potential of a fourth. The newsletter will also include a report from both ToB and MODL, info on the Coastal Action initiative and a section focusing on tourism. One idea for the newsletter is to help promote member to member benefits.
- 3) AGM. Scheduled for June 18th. Given current state of affairs, the event will have to be virtual but if postponed to September, there is the chance that it could be held in person. Blair moved to conduct a virtual AGM in 2021, similar to what was done in 2020. Motion has been tabled as there needs to be further discussions on how to organize this.

Nominations Committee

Jim and Dan have requested that they been sent a message with board members intentions (staying or going).

Financial (Lee Wallet Lee.Wallet@bmo.com)

Report submitted by Lee (see attachments). Dan to set up a meeting at the bank with Jim to go over deposits, authorizations and investing.

Executive /Governance (Jim Brown president@bridgewaterchamber.com)

Have not met.

Executive Directors Report (Dan Hennessey office@bridgewaterchamber.com)

Dan said that Nova Scotia Power has not paid their membership fees and will likely be removed from the website. Overall, we've lost some members but gained new ones elsewhere. Dan noted he did a podcast with Todd Veinotte about BACC discussing membership and the strengths of our organizations. Dan said that the whole thing came about organically and that the experience was positive, if unscripted. Todd said he would send a link to the podcast.

TOB/MODL updates Cheryl Fougere & Leitha Haysom)

MODL

Leitha said that the municipality is currently going through their capital budget workshop to set priorities. Some of the items moving ahead include the high speed internet project. Maps on MODL's website showcase coverage areas for the next phase of the plan. Work on the LaHave River Straight Pipe project is continuing and is on schedule despite COVID. Another big piece is the upcoming accessibility legislation.

ToB

Report submitted by Chery included update on downtown Bridgewater and some plans being delayed, specifically around the parkade. She also mentioned the Bridgewater Talks event happening March 29th at the South Shore Centre and LCLC.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Strategic Planning Sessions with Judy. If not do-able in person, board agreed to set something up in early April. Everyone is invited to attend but the topic of conversation will be around the Chamber's mission statement. Dan said he's going to get back to the board with some potential dates. Ideas for a location included the Michelin Social Club.
- 2) Awards. Potential partnership with SaltWire. As both Shawn and Josh left before this topic, going to press pause on the idea until things are settled.
- 3) New website. It is, simply put, awesome.

NEXT MEETINGS

April 09 2021

May 14 2021

June 11 2021

June 18 2021 AGM (Tyler Hayden confirmed as Key Note)

July 09 2021

August 13 2021

September 10 2021

October 08 2021

November 12 2021

December 10 2021

Adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

Submitted by Josh Healey with files from Leitha Haysom.