

Meeting Minutes for the Bridgewater & Area Chamber of Commerce Board

March 8th, 2019

In attendance

Dan Hennessey, Brooke Nodding, Jeff Langille, Jim Brown, Emily MacKay, Blair Lipsett, Lee Wallet, Bill MacInnis, Shawn Patterson

Regrets: Joel Holland, Andrew Mutch, Melissa Prime

Call to order

8:30am Committee Room Town of Bridgewater

Additions to Agenda

Jim Brown added item under correspondence.

Correspondence

Lone Wolves Bike Club hosting "Bikers in the Park" July 20th now at the DesBrisay museum in support of Juvenile Cancer Research, \$200 already committed by the Chamber

Chamber Chat Presentation

Don Graves Business Development Manager, Atlantic Region, Staples. Recorded and posted on our website.

Approval of Minutes

Approval for previous meetings minutes from the Feb 1, 2019 Board meeting was passed, with a correction, wrong Chamber Chat name listed on March minutes.

Business Arising

Still looking for volunteers to cover the BACC/Lions booth at the Royal LePage LCLC Home Show. Saturday shifts still available, 2 to 4pm, and 4 to 6pm; discussed our goals and message for the event.

Committee Restructuring- Jim discussed some of the committees and assigned chair roles.

Old Business

Quarterly newsletter for Chamber has been approved by TOB thanks to Bill McInnis, the TOB issues a quarterly newsletter, offered the BACC a space in "the Bridge". To move

Job fair on April 11th noon to 3pm at the Michelin Social Club Jim Brown attended.

Financial Update

Lee Wallet discussed the financials, distributed prior to the meeting. Event revenue is not matching the expenses. Need to implement standard invoicing for no shows. Executive to sit with Budget committee for setting budget next year.

From Bill McInnis on TOB updates as he has to leave early: Budget looks like it will pass this week of TOB. Some development on King Street, and private capital investment. Updates on Energize Bridgewater. Smart Cities challenge will be named May 14th, really hoping Bridgewater will be named. TOB Bridgewater proposed budget and proposed by-law amendments sent out in advance.

Committee Reports

1. Events Committee updates from Brooke. Update circulated to board members prior to meeting.
2. MacKenzie discussed TOB by-law amendments to set up temporary structures, for commercial purposes, to use vacant space from existing land owners. Businesses would have to obtain a development permit (and/or building permit if applicable). Public information meeting on Wednesday, April 10th at 6pm at the Town Hall.
3. Membership committee- Benefits and perks for Chamber members. Staples offer was moved by Blair Lipsett, 2nd by Shawn Patterson, motion passed.
4. Nominating committee- Ryan Buck and Jim Brown met for nominating committee.
5. Budget committee- Lee- discussed under Financial Updates
6. Chamber Mandate committee- Blair update reached out to Dwight Robar from Digital Fusion for polling software issues. Moving forward polling should be easier to use.
7. Executive Directors Report distributed to board members in advance of meeting. Dan is now Vice Chair of the downtown planning committee.
8. From Reid Whynot on MODL business updates: Spent a lot of money of recreation, millions a year. Trying to attract younger generation to TOB, MODL. Fire service is struggling, they are desperate for help, and recruitment is a dire need. TOB & MODL is expanding in population so it's important to continue working together and cooperate to find efficiencies to save money and grow intelligently especially with essential services.

New Business

Dan attended AGM for Citizens for Public Transit. They are looking for help promoting their message to our memberships, they have to become a member in order to do promote to our membership.

Lunenburg Queens Business Awards Breaker promotion going in the paper, looking for sponsorship. Not in the budget, so we are not going to support.

Adjournment

Next meeting is Friday, May 10th 2019, @ 8:30am sharp Town Hall committee room.