

Meeting Minutes for the Bridgewater & Area Chamber of Commerce Board

Sept 13, 2019

In attendance

Dan Hennessey, Jim Brown, Blair Lipsett, Bill MacInnis, Shawn Patterson, Andrew Mutch, Reid Whynot, Jeff Langille, Jayme Rhyno

Regrets: Brooke Nodding, Blair Lipsett, Melissa Prime, Debra Porter, Lee Wallet

Call to order

8:30am Council Chambers Town of Bridgewater

Additions to Agenda

Twoonie Toss Changes

Correspondence Items added

Correspondence

Royal Canadian Legion Banner program annual request for \$250 sponsorship came in. Shawn Patterson said we support every year and made a motion to continue to support this fall. Reid Whynot seconded.

Brenda Kenney submitted request for volunteers for Junior Achievement Company Program. Emily MacKay discussed the program as she is familiar with. She will take away and ask Brenda if we can split up our time commitment as an organization within the BACC with multiple members. Emily will get back to the chamber with further details. To be added to Oct agenda. Shawn Patterson committed 4 weeks; Blair Lipsett indicated interest as well as Emily MacKay.

Correspondence from Jennifer Naugler from Simple Local Life requested we send out to our membership details for on an upcoming event Why Social Media Matters with John Swaine. We all agreed to support as last year's event was a success.

Chamber Chat Presentation

Glenn Carey, Director of Business Development- South Shore Lumberjacks, discussing the symbiotic relationship of hockey in our community and supporting local businesses, and local business supporting hockey.

Approval of Minutes

Approval for previous meetings minutes from the Aug 9th, 2019 Board meeting was passed.

Business Arising

Needs Assessment sessions review and member training update: program is fully funded and we have 12 members (full) in the program right now. If interest continues we may add a second program. BACC is the administrator of this program; the administration fee is covered by government partner. Marketing team from St.FX is looking to meet with us to help promote this program.

Old Business

Quarterly newsletter for Chamber put together by Ray Bonneville sample review to be sent out to the Chamber.

Open house with BACC to be put on hold to 2020.

Fall election coming up, continuing to facilitate Candidates Forum when the time comes. Oct 2nd from 7pm to 9pm at the Best Western is the debate NS Association of Realtors is sponsoring; Blair Lipsett will be moderating, sound system from Crossfire. Invite coming.

Financial Update

Financials circulated prior to meeting.

Lee discussed we should vote on the budget, tabled for next meeting. Review options for email services as current expenses are quite high.

** Shawn Patterson had to leave for another meeting, asked that we participate in Christmas on the Lahave add to next agenda.

Committee Reports

Educational (Co Chair Blair Lipsett and Brooke Nodding)

Government involvement (Chair-Shawn Patterson)

Community Involvement (Jeff Langille)

Member engagement (Chair Debra Porter and Jayme Rhyno will work on committee)

Nominations Committee (Chair- Blair Lipsett)

- Need Secretary still- as Emily MacKay has stepped down and we have no Secretary, perhaps Kim?

Financial (Emily)

As discussed during financial update by Lee Wallet

Executive /Governance (Jim, Blair and Emily)

No updates

New Business:

Service invoice from Digital Fusion for website as previously discussed on the financial update.

Lunch and learn at Pizza Delight, low attendance, please send out to your contacts and encourage them to attend.

Bill McInnis- the Town of Bridgewater approved some by-laws in regard to Buildings in Bridgewater. A new interchange has been announced off Hwy 103 will open additional acreage to the Business Park. We are now a "Federal Economic Zone". Twinned highway could someday be a reality. Several companies are reviewing Bridgewater for setting up shop.

Jim Brown requested Bill McInnis takes back to the TOB another open meeting with council

Reid Whynot discussing strait pipe issue ongoing, internet struggling big time it's a big cost thing for MODL and a slow project. New building is about a 1 million over budget. Jim Brown -new park in Northfield off Hwy 10 congratulation to MODL for putting in, it's a really nice spot.

Should we support Lumberjacks advertising? Emily MacKay put motion forward to put add in the Season program to advertise the Toonie Toss seconded by Reid Whynot, motion passed.

Quick note on First Aid Program from Debra Porter, there is now more space available. Sponsored by Emera. Dates running until the end of November. Chamber to resend out information on it.

Thank you note suggestion put forward by Reid Whynot from the Board to the volunteers Fire Fighters. Send thank you to all the Chamber members who allowed their employees to leave for fires.

Can we send something Petite Riviere Store that burned? We will waive the Chamber membership fee for The Osprey Nest same owners and send a letter.

Adjournment

Next meeting is Friday, Oct 11, 2019, @ 8:30am Council Chamber Town Hall, Town of Bridgewater