

SMITHS FALLS & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Minutes of Meeting – July 12th, 2017

Valley Heartland Board Room

7:30 am

Present: Barbara Black, Sean Lawrence, Mike Fletcher, Chris Saumure, Cy Wells, Jean Sherman, Eileen Crosbie, Crystal Levatte, Tracy Gallipeau-Nolan, Kristine Fair, Pat Wiseman

Council: Jay Brennan

Staff: Therese Dinelle, Heather Currie-Whiting

Regrets: Gail Moore-Barrie

Absent: Jeff Banks, Dawn Quinn

Guest:

Call to Order by President, Barbara Black, at 7:30 am

Mission Statement read by President, Barbara Black

Changes to Minutes of June 14th, 2017

None

Motion to accept Minutes of June 14th, 2017

Moved: Sean Lawrence

Second: Cy Wells

Motion Carried

Disclosure of Monetary Interest

None

Council Report – Town of Smiths Falls

Jay Brennan – Council on break for 2 weeks.

- Vacancy Rebate – would like to hear from the Chamber on its view of the vacancy rebate.
- New logo and tag line has been launched and was a success.

Council Report – Township of Rideau Lakes

Not present.

Treasurer Report – Mike Fletcher

- Chamber in a solid position.
- Golf tournament was successful. Comparison – 2013 - \$16300., 2014 - \$12000, 2015 -\$15000, 2016 - \$17400., 2017 - \$31098 – gross revenue.
- Bank has \$53,000 in it and there is \$35000 of Account Receivables due.

Administration/Accounting

Therese Dinelle – Doing catch up.

- Received approximately ½ of membership renewal fees.
- Will send out reminders.

Marketing Coordinator

Heather Whiting - In need of a projector. Heather given permission to spend \$500. on a projector for future business events.

- Heather will be away next week from July 16 to July 23, 2017.
- Heather will be away for 3 weeks – July 28th, 2017 to August 20th, 2017
Perth Outfitters is hosting a Chamber event for mini-putt. Is asking the Chamber to take part.
Heather will find out the date and email the Board of Directors.

Victoria Park Campground

Gail Moore-Barrie – Amazing summer, up from last year.

- This coming weekend will be the 3rd weekend the park has no vacancies.
- Boat numbers are down but larger boats/cruisers are mooring.
- Positive review from the campers and boaters regarding the beauty of the park and cleanliness.
- Starting to canvas for prizes for the annual BBQ. The bank playing is “Fiddle Earth” and posters will be displayed.
- BBQ – Friday, August 11, 2017 at Victoria Park Campground – BBQ will be served at 5:30 pm. to 7:30 pm - **Need 6 (six) volunteers to help with the BBQ.**
- Would like to discuss the opening and closings dates, especially for this October so campers can be advised.
The closing date for the ending of the 2017 season will be Tuesday, October 10th, 2017.
Gail will advise all the campers that stay until the end of the season.
- 2018 opening and closing to be revisited at next meeting.

Accreditation for the Chamber

- is due September, 2017 – <http://www.accreditationsec.ca/apply-now/>
- **Mike Fletcher was asked to help with this and Mike said he was available in August, 2017.**

Golf Tournament Report

- Barbara Black thanked the committee, Heather Whiting and Therese Dinelle for a job well done.
- Lots of compliments all around.

Gala – Kristine Fair

- Need to have a meeting.
- Band, Hanley Hall, Keynote Speaker are all booked.
- Date is Friday, October 13, 2017
- A Canada theme.
- It will not be an awards banquet. That will be done at a breakfast meeting.
- Meeting on Tuesday, July 18th, 2017 at 7:30 am, Mike Fair Cadillac, Chev, Buick, etc. conference room.

Brooke Henderson Via Rail – Heather Whiting

- Thursday, August 24th, 2017 going to the Canadian Women’s Open, gather at the Community Theatre for breakfast, jump on the train, get a t-shirt and head to Ottawa, shuttle from Fallowfield to the Hunt Club golf course with return on the train.
- Heather to contact VIA Rail and email all information to board members.

Application from April Flegg

- April Flegg to be invited to the next meeting – Heather will call.

Long-term Prospect for Campground

- Suggestions – put up “Pop-up” shops, a campsite beside Roosteraunt (Parks Canada property)
- Mike Fletcher suggested a committee.
- To be revisited at next meeting

September 20th, 2017 – Fair Workplace, Better Jobs, Act Changes

- Hall to be determined.
- Speaker – Karl Baldorf, OCC and Ont. Ministry of Labour – speaker to be announced.
- Starting 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- Invite – Merrickville and Westport Chamber, all local businesses, etc.
- Econolodge donated their lounge.
- Heather to contact other halls
- Barbara will find out who is the speaking on behalf of the Ministry of Labour.

Request for letter to support town for commuter rail service

- Barbara Black was speaking to the Honorable Shawn Pankow regarding VIA Rail adding more commuter trains to and from Smiths Falls. The Town of Smiths Falls is looking for a letter from the Chamber to support the addition of VIA Rail routes.
- Barbara Black said she would draft up a letter.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 am

Moved: Sean Lawrence

Second: Mike Fletcher

Motion carried.

Next Meeting, Wednesday, August 9th, 2017 at Valley Heartland board room.