

SMITHS FALLS & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

October 8, 2014

Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario

7:30 am

Present: *Chris Saumure, John Gray, Anne Shropshire, , Cy Wells, Barry Webster, Hugh Colton, Joe Gallipeau, Tracey Pankow, Sean Lawrence, Dave Lawrence, Bev Street, Kristine Fair-Clemmens, Jim Pankow, Melissa Hillier and Ashley Lennox*

Council Reps: *Jay Brennan, Dennis Staples and Jeff Banks*

Regrets: *Eileen Crosbie and John Maloney*

Guests: *Kathleen Howlett (Katmor's Bed and Breakfast)*

Chris Saumure read the Mission Statement aloud

Call to Order

Chris Saumure called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

New Business to add to Agenda

None

Motion to accept Agenda

Moved: Sean Lawrence

Seconded: Dave Lawrence

Changes to the minutes from August 12, 2014

None

Motion to accept the minutes from August 12, 2014

Moved: Hugh Colton

Seconded: Dave Lawrence

Changes to the minutes from September 10, 2014

None

Motion to accept the minutes from September 10, 2014

Moved: Sean Lawrence

Seconded: Dave Lawrence

Disclosure of Monetary Interest

None

Approval of by-law changes

Melissa informed everyone of the reason for the meeting to change the by-laws. An email was received from Wendy Chapman from the North Grenville Chamber of Commerce in regards to the wording in the by-laws. Melissa asked the board for a motion to change the wording before moving forward with the approval from the members.

Motion to amend the by-laws wording to say “appoint” instead of “elect”

Motioned by: Sean Lawrence

Seconded by: Cy Wells

Motion Carried

Motion to approve the by-law changes to section 3.2 and add section 3.2.1

Motioned by: Sean Lawrence

Seconded by: Dave Lawrence

Motion Carried

Council Report Town of Smiths Falls

- Dennis Staples gave the report
- Municipal Council is quiet right now
- Monday Mtg. was a request for zoning by-law to be amended. Meeting was well attended. The zoning is for 18-22 Main St. to be possibly rezoned as residential on the ground floor. Any concerns or comments are to be directed to Nikki McKernan at the Town office
- Special COW meeting was held for budget on the sewer/waste management. They are moving forward according to the \$50,000 budget
- Council meeting – amendment to parking by-law for Catherine St. for St. James the Greater School. The amendment will allow the children to be able to be dropped off safely in front of the school
- September 22 was the unveiling of the new signage for Brittany and Brooke Henderson
- The Staples Golf tournament raised enough money to give \$4,100 towards the Legions elevator fund and \$4,100 to the Gerry Lowe Foundation
- Kick off breakfasts for United Way are being held throughout the region. Fraser Scantlebury is a good choice for a speaker at one of our upcoming meetings
- Smiths Falls has Canadas oldest triathlon. Somersault promotions are the planners and scheduled for June of 2015. They are looking for support from the Town of Smiths Falls this year
- TD Tree Planting Days was held last Saturday at Lower Reach Park. 150 trees were planted
- Premiere Kathleen Wynn has sent out letters to each of the ministries and the Chamber should take a look at these to see where they are headed in the future
- Holiday Train is scheduled to stop in Smiths Falls again this year on November 28 at 7:00 pm at Victoria St. Station Theatre

- Malcolm Morris CAO sends his regrets for this meeting but he will attend the November meeting
- A by-law is being amended to change the way things are stored on yards is being deferred and opinions and comments are needed
- Jay Brennan thanked the Chamber for hosting the All Candidates Nights

Council Report – Township of Rideau Lake

- Jeff Banks gave his report
- Jeff also informed the board that it has been slow and not much going on
- An All Candidates Night is being held tonight in Elgin at the Legion and the Chamber is hosting an All Candidates Night tomorrow at 7:00 pm at the Lombardy Hall
- OPP costing has gone up from 1.6 M to 1.8 M based on the 7600 homes in the Rideau Lakes Area

Chamber Update

- Melissa updated the board on what's going on at the chamber
- All Candidates Night for Rideau Lakes tomorrow night at the Lombardy Agricultural Hall at 7:00 pm
- AGM is planned for October 29, 2014 at the Smiths Falls Memorial Community Centre. Calls are being made for sponsors and tickets. Nominations are needed and they close this Friday.
- Chamber Relocation – September 11 there was a meeting with CAO Malcolm Morris in regards to the Chamber moving to the front of the Town Hall. No decision will be made until the decision to house the Ambulance Services is made. Dennis Staples invited the Chamber to make a delegation at the next meeting on Tuesday night to the Council and Mayor

Motion for the Chamber to go to the Council with a request to move into the front of the Town Hall building

Motioned by: Sean Lawrence

Seconded by: Joe Gallipeau

Motion Carried

Physician Recruitment

Dave Lawrence informed the board that last November there was an action lab held in Smiths Falls. We have too many patients without doctors in Town and there has been a need to recruit more. Dave has been the Chair of the Physician Recruitment Task Force for the last couple of years and the board felt we needed a recruiter full time. They have hired someone and she has already had 3 doctors commit to moving to Smiths Falls and a couple more are a tentative. The recruiter is on contract for the next 2 years with a possible third year being added. Recruiter is going to council on Tuesday to approach the Council and Mayor and bring them up to date with the progress she has been making. Melissa Hillier to invite her to the next board meeting.

Economic Development

Dennis Staples informed the board that the next Council will decide if an Economic Development Office is needed in Smiths Falls

Upcoming Board Meetings

November 12, 2014

December 10, 2014

Mission Statement:

The Smiths Falls & District Chamber of Commerce is the Voice of Commerce dedicated to the promotion of economic development and the prosperity for the enrichment of our community.