

**SMITHS FALLS & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**September 10, 2014**

**Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario**

**7:30 am**

**Present:** *Chris Saumure, John Gray, Anne Shropshire, John Maloney, Cy Wells, Barry Webster, Hugh Colton, Joe Gallipeau, Tracey Pankow, Sean Lawrence, Dave Lawrence, Melissa Hillier and Ashley Lennox*

**Council Reps:** *Jay Brennan and Jeff Banks*

**Regrets:** *Kristine Fair-Clemmens, Eileen Crosbie, Jim Pankow, Bev Street and Dennis Staples*

**Guests:** *Stacey Roy*

*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**

Dave Lawrence asked to add Santa Clause Parade  
Tracey Pankow asked to add DBA and Chamber Partnership  
John Maloney asked to add Ice Bucket Challenge

**Motion to accept Agenda**

**Changes to the minutes from August 12, 2014**

Joe Gallipeau has asked that the minutes from the August 12<sup>th</sup> board meeting be amended to reflect that the by-law changes are to be taken to the October General Meeting for approval from the members of the Chamber.

Motion: Make our October board meeting a General Meeting and bring the by-law changes to this meeting for approval from the member

**Moved: Tracey Pankow**

**Seconded: Joe Gallipeau**

**Motion Carried**

**Motion to accept the minutes from August 12, 2014**

Minutes need to be amended before being approved

### **Disclosure of Monetary Interest**

None

### **Council Report Town of Smiths Falls**

- Jay Brennan gave the report
- Food Hub: market food locally
- CAO Morris to recruit
- Staff to apply for Infrastructure Fund and Small Communities Fund for two projects
  - Rehabilitation of Foster Avenue
  - Stone Arch Bridge
- COW mtg – delegation – Brian Coogle and Jim Lacey
  - Plan to convert Lacey's into Condos for seniors
- Renewed agreement with ministry for Small Business Centre at Cornelia Court
- Gallipeau Centre – Incubator. Plans are underway to have a business centre at the Gallipeau Centre for small businesses to rent a space to start out in
- EMS agreement for the Firehall and Ambulance to share a space at the town hall. The next council will be making the decision but the CAO has been asked to continue to discuss the agreement options and expansion options as well as cost
- September 22 @ 3:20 there will be an unveiling at the corner of William and Cornelia Street
- Staples Golf Tournament was a huge success and was sold out. Staples has decided on which charities to donate to – the Gerry Lowe Foundation and the Legion for the Elevator installation
- Election is October 27 and will be a mail in ballot this year. All ballots will be mailed out on October 2 and will need to be returned by October 18
- All candidates night – Chamber to take over the all candidates night instead of the Rotary Club

### **Council Report – Township of Rideau Lake**

- Jeff Banks gave his report
- At their meeting last Monday they approved continuing to collect development charges
- Asked that chamber to host an all candidates night in Rideau Lakes Township

### **Strategic Planning Presentation**

- Anne Shropshire presented to the board an overview of where the Strategic Plan is at the moment and where the committee hopes to take it in the coming months.

### **Chamber Update**

- Melissa updated the board on what's going on at the chamber
- AGM has been booked for October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Smiths Falls Memorial Community Centre and invites have already started to be sent to members. Allan O'Dette has signed on to be our Guest Speaker as well. Already have some tickets sold

- LIP and Valley Heartland would like to know if the Immigrant Award can be changed so that the criteria will allow non-members to win the award. Offer with the award a 1 year membership to the Chamber of Commerce
- All Candidates – Need to look at dates available – September 30 and October 1. Have two nights one for Mayor and one for Council
- Relocation will be discussed on Thursday with the CAO Malcolm Morris. Anne, Joe and Chris are to attend with Melissa
- Visitor Guide – staff has started the process with Town Hall staff. A meeting with the CAO Malcolm Morris and Kevin O’Dair has been scheduled

**Santa Claus Float**

- Dave Lawrence informed the board that Stan Suffel has approached him asking if the Chamber of Commerce would be interested in taking over the Santa Claus float at the parade each year.

Motion: The Chamber of Commerce to take over the Santa Claus float at the Santa Claus parade.

**Moved: John Maloney**

**Seconded: Cy Wells**

**Motion Carried**

**DBA Partnership**

- Tracey Pankow has asked the Chamber if they would be interested in partnering with the DBA on their Black Friday event. Black Friday is aimed at bringing and keeping shoppers here in Town.
- Also would like to work together on the Christmas Tree Lighting. Tracey is going to come up with some new ideas for the tree lighting ceremony as the tree in front of Town Hall needs to be taken down. A suggestion is to use the Rink of Dreams and combine all the tree lighting events together.

**Economic Development**

Nothing to report

**Ice Bucket Challenge**

John Maloney reminded the board that the ALS Walk is September 13th at Lower Reach Park. There is also going to be a HUGE Ice Bucket Challenge to start at 11:30.

**Upcoming Board Meetings**

**October 8, 2014**

**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.**