

Bridgewater and Area Chamber of Commerce
Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors
held on 6th Jan 2017

Board Room, 186 North Street
Bridgewater, Nova Scotia

Present: Dan, Lee, Lisa, Trevor, Blair, Brooke, Shawn, Tina, Andrew
Claudette, Bill

Additions to Agenda – N/A

1. **Approval of Agenda** – MOTION to approve agenda by Blair. SECONDED by Brooke. CARRIED.
2. **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting** – MOTION to approve by Trevor. SECONDED by Andrew. CARRIED
3. **Financial Report**
No bank statements yet. Darlene will do the final report to the province.

4. Correspondence

Letter from Preston & Assoc asking us to recommend 10 businesses to them so they can set up a meeting with each to present group benefits & insurance. There would be residual benefits to the Chamber for each new business that joined with them. Dan to talk to Joe and find out more info on this and what exactly they want from us.

5. Old Business

Holiday Event Debrief

Good turnout and \$400 was raised for The United Way. Next year we have the LCLC booked for a family skate.

Storefront Contest

This was the first year for the contest and it went well. K&S Fashion was the winner. When the plaque is given pic will be taken for the story in the Breaker.

6. New Business

Chamber Participation on Committees

Request was made for a chamber rep to sit on the committee for the Energy Fair taking place Oct 4. This replaces the Growing Green Festival. It's a big event to showcase local energy projects in Bridgewater. Blair & Brooke are both involved so they will be the chamber reps.

Events Lunenburg County & the Façade Society – Dan sits on both of these committees

Chamber should also be involved with Joint Services Board

Mayors Event

26 so far that have RSVP'd. No online registration this time, it's pay at the door. We can invoice Town & MODL. And invoice Michelin for sponsorship. Open to the public and press releases are out. Should extend invitation to student council president to attend at n/c– Bridgewater High & Park View

Chamber Website

need to make sure chamber meetings are listed on calendar

Canada 150

Shawn responded to Jennifer MacDonald that the Chamber would help in any way we could

David Atkinson Bon Spiel

This is the last one that will be held and Chamber was asked if we would help in some way. It was discussed and we haven't done anything in the past.

New Board Member

Ken Young has asked about joining the Board. Do we have an opening? Invite him to next meeting.

Next Event

Dan to contact Mark Fury & Suzanne Lohnes-Croft for interest in doing a breakfast in Feb

7. Jr Achievement Presentation

Program is call Discounty providing a local savings card that will allow customers to receive a discount at local stores. Each business pays a one time registration fee of \$35. 20% of each card sale will go towards marketing the Buy Local campaign. They are looking for \$350 - \$500 funding and assistance for the \$500 prize (a draw to encourage customers to sign up to the email promotions). The card expires June 30, 2017. JA to send Dan more info on the card program and we can possibly send it out to members.

After discussion by the Board we all agreed that while this is a great idea, the downfall is the time frame is so short as the card expires at the end of June. The Board also feels that they should broaden their focus on which businesses to include in order for the card to be more effective. They are only focussing on locally owned businesses. However there are local franchisees and these businesses, especially food establishments, would be a great addition as well.

8. Next Meeting: Friday Feb 3 at 8:30 am

9. Adjournment – meeting adjourned.