

**Bridgewater and Area Chamber of Commerce**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on June 9, 2017**

**Best Western**  
**Cookville, Nova Scotia**

**1. Call to Order and Welcome Remarks**

Shawn Patterson, President, called the meeting to order and delivered opening remarks to the membership

**2. Approval of Agenda**

MOTION to approve agenda by Bob Richards. SECONDED by Brian Buck. CARRIED

**3. Approval of Minutes of AGM of June 2016**

MOTION to accept minutes by Blair Lipsett. SECONDED by Ryan Buck. CARRIED

**4. Old Business/Business Arising from Minutes**

N/A

**5. New Business**

- a) **Treasurer's Report (Brooke Nodding)** – membership dues are up \$8000 from last year. Total Revenue is down \$15000 and that results from the Chamber no longer managing the building on King St. Expenses were also down \$15000 because we are no longer managing the King St building. General net income is on par with last year. Net income for 2017 is \$3300 and is down \$500 from 2016.
  
- b) **Appointment of Accountants** – MOTION to appoint Belliveau Veinotte as the Chambers Accountants by Brooke Nodding. SECONDED by Trevor Walters. CARRIED

**6. Student Presentation**

Emma Wagner a grade 11 student at Bridgewater Jr/Sr High School became aware of a Citizen Ship program in Ottawa that the Rotary Club was sponsoring. She wanted to be the representative from this area so she approached the Bridgewater Area Chamber of Commerce for support. She also had to write an essay and do a short film as part of her application. The Chamber wrote a letter to the Rotary Club on her behalf and she was chosen to attend the program. Emma did a presentation on her trip and also shared her essay with the Chamber membership.

## **7. Key Note Address**

Harry Rhyno introduced Lynn Hennigar, Publisher and Owner of Lighthouse Now and has over 30 years of business experience on the South Shore. Her family was always an avid member of the Chamber and she shared her insights and ideas she gained through her business experience and volunteering over the years. She gave a very informative talk on the building of the family owned publishing business, how it and the family evolved and progressed and how the industry changed over the years.

## **8. Nomination Committee**

Jim Brown and Ryan Buck presented the nominations for the upcoming year. Currently there are 5 positions open with 2 positions held by officers who are re-offering.

The following are the recommendations:

Lisa Flemming – re-offering

Andrew Zinck – re-offering

The following are recommended by the nominating committee:

Bob Richards

Sean Sears

No nominations from the floor.

MOTION to accept the recommendations for the current openings on the board of directors by Jim Brown. SECONDED by Brian Buck. CARRIED

The position of Past President is open and Jim Brown recommended that be filled by Harry Rhyno.

MOTION for Harry Rhyno to fill the position of Past President by Jim Brown. SECONDED by Bob Richards. CARRIED

## **9. Chamber of Commerce Reports**

**a) Group Insurance Report** – Joe Kinsmen from Preston and Associates gave a financial update. 42 businesses that are members of the Chamber have the Chamber group plan which translates to \$350,000 in annual premiums. This translates to \$10,000 in admin fees going directly back to the Chamber. The admin fees vary depending on the amount of benefits chosen from 1.9% to 4%. The Chamber receives 2.85%.

**b) President's Report (Shawn Patterson)** – Shawn stated the biggest challenge this past year was the issue with our office space and the move we made to a new location however it has proved to work out. He also mentioned a couple of his goals as President – One wanting the Chamber more involved with the community and we did that by donating the camera for the new park to the Bridgewater Police. The

other was to grow membership and the financials have shown an increase in \$8000 over last year in dues so that's a plus.

**10. Closing Remarks (Shawn Patterson)**

Shawn delivered the closing remarks and thanked the Best Western for the venue and breakfast.

**11. Adjournment**

on MOTION the meeting was adjourned