

Meeting Minutes for the Bridgewater & Area Chamber of Commerce Board

March 8th, 2019

In attendance

Dan Hennessey, Brooke Nodding, Jeff Langille, Reid Whynot, Jim Brown, Emily MacKay, Bill McInnis, Blair Lipsett, Lee Wallet, Debra Porter, Bill Bruhm, Melissa Prime

Regrets: Joel Holland, Shawn Patterson, Andrew Mutch

Call to order

8:30am Committee Room Town of Bridgewater

Additions to Agenda

N/A

Correspondence

- Wind Horse Farm

Chamber Chat Presentation

Dan Graves Business Development Manager for the Atlantic Region, see full presentation on our website.

Approval of Minutes

Approval for previous meetings minutes from the Feb 1, 2019 Board meeting was passed.

Business Arising

Committee Restructuring- Jim discussed his ideas for committee structures, looking for volunteers to head those committees. Motion made by Jeff Langille, 2nd by Brooke Nodding, motion passed to adopt committee structure.

King Street Merchants meeting debrief. Went well, it was a good start to open discussions and concerns. We will look to open the meeting to a larger group and non-members on King Street for next meeting, and a larger venue.

Old Business

N/A

Financial Update

Lee Wallet discussed the financials, distributed prior to the meeting. Last 3 months of our fiscal year, revenue generally falls during the last part of our year.

Committee Reports

1. Events Committee updates
 - a. Toonie Toss is ongoing, please share social media updates. Let's make it clear that the Chamber portion is for supporting local bursaries, and the other half is for the lions club. Please sign up for the Friday night draws. It's only 4 Fridays a year per board member. Looking to develop video to explain and advertise.
 - b. Town Hall Meeting with Mayor David Mitchell & Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson rescheduled March 13th at the Best Western.
 - c. March 28th 12pm-1:30pm "Why Social Media Matters" by Jennifer Naugler.
 - d. Home Show, April 26-28, 2019. BACC to share a booth with the Lions Club. Need to develop a schedule for BACC volunteers working the booth for the weekend.
 - e. Tim Houston's event April 25th @ Best Western, \$30-\$40. Bill's suggestion for next events would be to look at the legion.
2. Membership committee-Blair Lipsett discussed will be reaching out for board positions, and will be circulating the current list of members and positions and terms ending.
3. Nominating committee- Please provide nominations to Blair.
4. Budget committee- Lee- discussed budget and we should be mindful of spending getting close to budgeted maximums in certain categories.
5. Chamber Mandate committee- Put out question on single use plastic bags. Only about half of the membership received the question due to technical difficulties.
6. Executive Directors Report distributed to board members in advance of meeting. Membership is at an all-time high, 174 paid members currently.
7. From Reid Whynot on MODL business updates: Straight pipe for the river is going well. Firefighter recruitment is ongoing as there is a major shortage. New building going on Champlain Road.
8. From Bill McInnis on TOB updates: Smart Cities Project is coming along with Bridgewater still in the running for a \$5 million prize, the final submission has been made, on the TOB website. Transit has been made a permanent service in Bridgewater. There were \$15 million in new building permits last year, so we are growing DesBrisay Museum will be taking on more community events. TOB budget meeting is in March 10th at DesBrisay museum at 6pm and should be attended.

New Business

Ignite Program Presentation- Jim discussed the Breaker's advertising package. At this time the BACC cannot commit to that, at this time.

Adjournment

Next meeting is Friday, April 5th 2019, @ 8:30am sharp Town Hall committee room.