

# Bridgewater and Area Chamber of Commerce

AGENDA BOARD MEETING

MAY 8 2020

ONLINE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

## CALL TO ORDER

Meeting started at 8:30 a.m.

## ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- 1) The Bridge newsletter.
- 2) June AGM.
- 3) Town of Bridgewater update.

## CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) Common Good Solutions request. Dan said dozens of consulting firms have emailed to ask for the Chamber's membership list, one of them being Common Good Solutions. None of the firms are members. After some discussion, it was decided that the Chamber should not be a conduit for these firms, who do not contribute locally, to access our membership.
- 2) Peak Experiences. Not discussed.
- 3) #BuyLocal campaign. Dan and Jim said they had approached the Town of Bridgewater concerning a plan to promote a #BuyLocal campaign. When approached, Mayor David Mitchell suggested that it should be the Chamber who spearheads any initiative to support local businesses but would lend support where they could (ie. Free parking along King Street to help bring buyers back). It was decided that the Community Involvement committee would meet online to formulate a plan for the campaign.

## CHAMBER CHAT

None.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April. 17 2020 Board Meetings minutes lost due to technical difficulties.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Educational

-Brooke and Blair did not meet in April.

### Government involvement

-Jayme said that they've received the Town of Bridgewater's budget and is waiting responses from membership who may have any questions. However, as per Bill, the budget has been passed; the Town is still open to comments or suggestions from the Chamber.

### **Community Involvement**

-Debra said the committee has been looking for a keynote speaker for the June AGM, which is expected to be held online due to COVID-19. Discussion covered different ways to either stream, host or prepare video to share with membership. Overall, it was decided that the committee would further discuss what's needed as per the bylaws to satisfy the need for a year end meeting and that it should be tentatively postponed.

### **Nominations**

-Emily MacKay has stepped down from her board position. The nomination committee is going to go back and review some candidates from the last round who had previously expressed interest.

### **Financial**

-After some technical difficulties, Lee was able to log back onto the call and provide a brief update. With one month left in the fiscal year, there is roughly some \$8,821 net income. Concerning the Meet the Mayors event, the Chamber had a profit of some \$600.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- 1) Membership invoicing. Stacey is looking at an option to create and send out membership invoices more efficiently. The idea is that to get the invoices out but to set them back to Sept. 1 to help give businesses some time to pay. The program is called Zoho.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1) The Bridge newsletter. After some discussion, decided that the Chamber should put together a small column to highlight the #BuyLocal campaign, supports for local business and more.
- 2) AGM. Previously discussed in above committee summaries.
- 3) Town of Bridgewater update. The Topsail Tavern has now officially sold, the town's budget has been approved and the town tax bills are being sent out mid-May. Furthermore, the town is in the midst of creating a fund to help buy the town's police station instead of renting it.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 9:47 a.m.

Next meeting is June 12, 2020.