

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, Dec. 06, 2011 – UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY – 8:00 A.M.
WEBSITE: www.brucemineschamber.com
Email: info@brucemineschamber.com

Present:

Brian Torrance – Torrance Custom Interiors
Larry Peterson – Peterson & Peterson Law Firm
Lory Patteri – Town Councillor
Merin Smith – Retired Teacher
Lorne Barlow – Barlow's Chimney Sweeps
George Cragg – Copper Bay Web Designs
Connie Bennett – Bruce Mines Historical Society
Michael Peever – Mae-Ger Treasures
Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
Sandie Ubohy – Algoma District Services Administration Board
Dan Kerr
Pat Kerr
Elaine Switzman – Algoma District Services Administration Board
Ted Alleway – Iron Thistle Garage and Metal Works.

Guests: Arlene Connell – Lions Club
Cindy Stonehouse-Jones – Healthy Community Living

Regrets: Marla McPhee – M & J Hair Boutique

Call to Order: Brian Torrance called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Past Minutes :

Motion: Larry Peterson + Michael Peever moved that the minutes of Nov. 01, 2011 be approved as presented – carried

Treasurer's Report: -

Motion – Larry Peterson + Lorne Barlow approved that the Treasurer's Report be adopted as presented. – carried.

East Algoma Strategic Project (old report)

Marla McPhee reported that on Tues. Oct. 25, 2011 there was a Community Workshop to help create an Economic Development Strategic Plan for Bruce Mines and

Plummer Twp. The group was broken into 4 to 6 tables with 10 people to a table. Each group made note of what they (1) DID NOT want to see the community develop and (2) what they DID want to see their community develop into. WCM Consulting Group would take all of the information and will put it into a structured report to be sent out to the municipalities in January 2012.

Geothermal Energy

Brian Torrance reported a report has been obtained from the consultants – the project appears feasible. It is now up to the Chamber, Town and Township to decide whether or not to advance further on this project. Brian will speak with Dr. Scott for an electronic version of the report. Invoice for \$ 9,160.00 has been received and there is money in the account to cover it.

Motion: Merin Smith + Michael Peever that we pay the invoice of \$9,160.00 – carried.

Insurance: - [old report]

The insurance premium has been paid for the year. There are some questions that need to be answered. The commercial accounts have been transferred to Sault Ste. Marie

French Fryer: - no report

Canada Day – no report.

Web Site: - George Cragg reported there was a minor problem trying to upload the Mix & Mingle notice and that has been resolved.

Membership: - Michael Peever reported he will be attending to the membership table at the Mix & Mingle tonight.

Year End Reports – Brian Torrance wondered about doing up a year end report which summarizes all the activities of the Chamber. Many in the community are not aware of the Chamber's activities in the community.

Four & Friends Art Show & Sale: (old report)

- Brian Torrance reported that there is an upcoming meeting for 2012. Transfield agreed to cover 50% of the cost of sign replacement.

East Algoma Small Business – no report

Bruce Mines Historical Society: -

Connie Bennett reported that the big issue is the Jail – the President approached council – the town has given the Historical Society 1 year to prepare its presentation. The Society will be doing a cost study

The Lions Club has donated the wheelchair ramp to the Historical Society in the new year – it will be move to the museum.

The luncheon at the craft fairs was a real success – made \$400.00 +-

The annual meeting date is Feb. 21, 2012 at the Library.

The museum is now closed for the season and the water is shut off. It is decorated for Christmas.

Rydal Bank Historical Society: - no report

Library – no report

Town Improvements – Lory Patteri – work was completed on Oct. 31, 2011. Paperwork is being completed. There will be some clean-up work to do in the Spring.

Royal Canadian Legion – no report

Lions Club: - Arlene Connell reported the Lions are having a big convention in Sault Ste. Marie in April 20, 21 & 22, 2012 – from Calendar to Timmins to Cochrane to Wawa to Sault Ste. Marie.....expected 300 – 400 delegates. The last time the Chamber and the Town put in a full page advertisement in the program.

The cost for a ¼ page is \$125.00 – advertisement. We need to decide what is to go into the advertisement. The deadline is January 2012.

Motion: Michael Peever + Elaine Switzman that the Chamber pay the sum of \$125.00 and leave it to the advertising committee to work on the substance of the advertisement.

There is also spaces available for private businesses to advertise as well. ¼ pages is \$125.00 + ½ page is \$200.00 Businesses can contact Arlene Connell.

SnoGlyders –

There is a dinner dance coming up this weekend – tickets are with Goldie Foster and Clayton Jeffery

Sylvan Circle: - no report

Agricultural Society: - no report

Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce: - no report

Citizen of the Year – Larry Peterson is open to receiving suggestions for Citizen of the Year 2012. Fri. Feb. 17, 2012 will be held at the Bruce Station Community Hall

Community Hall – (old report) need a certain number of washrooms for men and women + a common wheelchair washroom. The size of the hall will be the same as the present without the stage. There will be a crawl space – not a basement.

Trade Fair – the chamber will do it on its own in 2012

Joint Advertising Committee - Committee Members – Michael Peever, (Chairman) Norm Hern, Howie Bowes, Sara Swain.

Mike Peever reported that he approached Cliffe Printing on the reprinting the old brochure – 1000 copies cost 77 cents or 5000 copies 25 cents with revisions. Cliffe has the best price. Cliffe is willing to show other ways on how to market the area. The Town and Township liked the brochure. The cost will be divided 3 ways –

The Algoma Outdoors book will also be advertised in with a distribution of 50,000 copies being distributed.

Any other advertising will have to be dealt with on a case by case basis.

Motion: Michael Peever + Lorne Barlow that the budget for the advertising committee for the total \$821.51 be approved for 2012 to cover the brochure and the Algoma Outdoors publication.- carried

The issue of creating Facebook is becoming popular with many Chambers and should be pursued. Mike will talk with George Cragg about this – it is free and has large public exposure.

Algoma Kinnewabi Tourist Association: - no report

Simpson Mine Shaft: - (old report) Lori Patteri reported that Henry Pieters will do repairs at the mine shaft after the marina shuts down. Outdoor work will be done first.

Mix & Mingle –

Merin reported that everything is ready to go at Lighthouse Lounge from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., with lots of food

Agricultural Society – no report

Ungated Tourist Attraction: (old report)

Marla McPhee met with Ted Alleway, Merin Smith and have agreed on a site for the sculpture. Ted has put in a request for materials and the price will be made known

to the committee. The grant approved is \$3,000.00. Ted reported that it would take him a month to create the sculpture and it is to go on display in May 2012.

The Craft Show

Library Clock (old report)

Michael Peever will donate a clock to the library meeting room.

Business of the Month

Dan Kerr, Pat Kerr and Lorelee Gordon are looking for suggestions on businesses to promote. Since December is so busy with Christmas celebrations and activities, this matter will be set over to January 2012

Cindy Stonehouse-Jones – Healthy Communities

Reported that she is meeting with the Martels and Mel Baird today to discuss the Healthy Community Grant. There currently are no volunteers who have time to commit. The volunteers are burnt out. The grant was given to develop leisure activities for low income families and low to no cost.

The newsletter seemed ineffective; the response has only had one to two people. One of the responses was concerning my last name. Members of the community have found facebook and the sentinel effective for receiving information.

Cindy has money to purchase small skis, snow shoes, etc to be used by the public but no one wants to claim ownership. Cindy feels her office should be moved from the Township office to the Arena. She is looking for relocation in order to engage both communities as per the grant. The grant is supposed to engage 25 to 40 percent of the communities. Currently she is not meeting that target. A community connection (arena) would aid in this barrier.

It is so difficult trying to get volunteers to sustain and keep the initiatives going.

Motion:Lorne Barlow + Michael Peever that the Chamber support the relocation of the Healthy Community office to the Arena in order to engage both communities in upcoming future events. – carried

Correspondence: none

New Business: none

Next Meeting: Tuesday Jan. 10 , 2012 at 8:00 a.m. at the Library.

Executive Meeting – T.B.A.

Adjournment: at 9:15 a.m.

NOTES