Lyndhurst, Seeley's Bay & District Chamber of Commerce General Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 25th, 2021 - Virtual Zoom Meeting

Meeting opened 7:11 pm.

In Attendance:

John Sideris – **President** Wings Live Bait & Tackle

Ken Davies-Vice-President Ken Davies Logistics Development

Irene Davelaar- **Secretary** Sliabhin Custom Apparel Annick Rousseau –**Director** Berry Homestead Farm

Heiner Kammann-**Membership Chair** Gleanna Lea Farms

Sunny Tessier - **Director**

Terri Dawson - Green Gecko

Wayne Pratt - guest

Mark Jamison - Envericom

Mary Whitney - Shabean Coffee Roastery

Karen Cornish - Kingston's Finest

1.Correspondence John Sideris

There was no new correspondence.

Congratulations to Terri Dawson, Green Gecko, on 15 years of being in business.

2. January Minutes – Irene Davelaar

Highlights from the January2021minutes were read. Heiner Kammen motioned to accept the minutes as read. Seconded by Ken Davies. Motion passed.

3. Treasurers Report:

John Sideris announced that the Lyndhurst, Seeley's Bay Chamber has moved its banking business from Gananoque TD to Athens BMO in order to facilitate the acquisition of EMT payment option for Chamber members and e-mail payment notification for bookkeeping records to Chamber Treasurer.

The amount of \$3,500.00 was left in the TD account to cover outstanding cheques; after which the account will be closed.

Irene Davelaar presented a balance update: On Feb. 18,2021, \$450.00 in membership fees was deposited into the BMO account, with a balance of \$8,182.50

4. Old Business

Courses:

Hunter Safety Courses are starting to run in March.

Contact: Bruce Stratton 613-387-8585 Lyndhurst & Seeley's Bay

First Aid: Instructor will be contacted as to course availability.

5. Zoom Meetings Updates – Ken Davies

5.1 Ken Davies and Terri Dawson have been asked to be on a Rural Advocacy Committee through 1000 Island Gananoque Chamber. The task of the committee members is to bring rural community issues to the fore.

Concerns can be submitted to: kdavies@baybrokerageus.com or terri@greengecko.ca

5.2 Businesses are encouraged, if having any trouble, to contact Ann Weir of Leeds and Grenville County Economic Development Office for direction to available assistance.

6. Township Update – Mark Jamison

Mark aptly filled in on the spur of the moment as Kim Goodman was unable to attend. Mark reported a very stable and civil staff working very well together for the community, finishing 2020 in the black and moving prudently forward; a commendable task considering the loss of revenue from the closed casino and other pandemic related challenges.

The Company 'Le Boat' will no longer be establishing itself in Seeley's Bay since its budget has been frozen due to the pandemic.

Kim Goodman is working towards acquiring further grants to assist the community. Mark closed with encouraging community members to "shop micro local".

7. Membership update – Heiner Kammann

As per today, February 20, 2021 we have received: 21 Membership Applications of which 13 want to advertise in the printed Business Directory Brochure.

These applications were all generated using the current Membership Application Form, which was also used in 2020.

The existing form proved to be very labour intensive and was not proper for Covid-19 environs. I organised Barbara Jordan of Bark Productions Inc. (a Chamber member in good standing) and Rena Taylor (our Chamber Directory Administrator) as team members to create new forms:

- Membership Application Form 2021
- Fillable generic form
- Fillable form for past advertisers
- Membership Agreement 2021. This one needs to be printed out, signed, dated, scanned and to be emailed back to Rena. We have no feature available for digital signature.

Rena will email these forms with a Cover Letter (see attached) to all members of the Chamber for which we currently have not received an application. I would expect this to start in the next few days, pending Rena's availability. Following this we intend to do another email mailout to potentially new members.

On the way to these digital forms the Chamber needed to re-arrange its banking relationship. It left TD Bank and transferred its banking to Bank of Montreal in Athens. This allows us to now offer Auto Deposit (E-Transfer) of Membership Dues and Advertising Fees.

Following Tanya Hammond's resignation from her post managing the Chamber's Website and Facebook appearance,

Barbara Jordan stepped forward to fill this post. In doing so, a member can now directly communicate with Barbara about their Website and/or Facebook listings and request changes, additions and/or deletions.

We also added a new Membership Class: Associate Membership (former business owner or future business owner).

New features:

These forms are all digital. Rena will email these to the recipients.

Recipient can fill out form on the computer and email filled out forms back to Rena.

Payment via E-Transfer (no more handling cheques or cash).

Past advertiser can review their artwork on the form and make corrections, etc.

One point of communications with current or new member (via our Chamber Directory Administrator).

Heiner Kammann Chair Membership Drive

8. Web Site/ Facebook – John Sideris

Barbara Jordan is Lyndhurst, Seeley's Bay & District Chamber's new facebook/website administrator with a mandate to post information from Chamber members, post relevant Government information and to maintain Chamber website's social media at a rate of pay of \$100.00 for 5 hours per month.

Contact: <u>babs@barkinc.com</u> for any changes of information to be made or postings.

9. New Business-

9.1 2021 Budget: report – Sunny Tessier

A sub-committee comprised of Heiner Kammann, Ken Davies, John Sideris and Sunny Tessier met February 2nd, 2021 to work on establishing a Budget for Lyndhurst Seeley's Bay & District Chamber. Heiner and Eva Kammann were thanked for hosting the meeting.

This is the Chambers first year in laying out a budget for the upcoming year, working towards becoming better planners.

A budget summary was established based on past entries. A Report will be available for review and comment.

Further discussion was held on Surplus Reserve Fund and Revenue Generation Plan.

9.2 Internet Server: Heiner Kammann

Given the intermittent internet service in some area locales, Heiner Kammann suggested that businesses may wish to consider the private sector, Star Link, as a source for internet service. Heiner stated that if speed is of the essence, the private sector may not be necessarily a cheaper option but a more reliable option; and added that given savings in travel costs etc., it is a small investment compared to the gain. Heiner has recently connected to Star Link and will be giving a service report after some time of use.

9.3 Visitor Service RFQ:

John Sideris, Sunny Tessier and Ken Davies are to meet with Kim Goodman regarding the Request for Quotes for a Visitor Service Centre to the area to enquire for further information with possibility of a 2022 submission.

9.4 Advertising:

9.4.1 Heiner Kammann proposed looking into getting a mainstreet event banner and budgeting \$500.00 towards it.

- 9.4.2 It was suggested that a full page ad copy of the Chamber Directory be printed in the July 1st Canada Day edition of the Athens Mural. Actual pricing yet to be received.
- 9.5 Terri Dawson brought up the possibility of having a sidewalk sale on May 24th. Further discussion and possible planning to be held March and April meetings, pending pandemic restrictions.
- 9.6 Ken Davies has approached the Mayor of Rideau Lakes to possibly allow mailing of envelope of coupons from local area businesses to new residents. Any interested businesses contact: kdavies@brokerageus.ca
- 9.7 Second Annual 1000 Islands Gananoque Chamber of Commerce International Women's Day

To be held March 8th, 2021 by Zoom 12-3 pm Admission \$45.00

Contact: http://1000islandsganchamber.com

Next Meeting to be a General Meeting virtual zoom teleconference meeting and/or in person;

open to Chamber Members to be held March 25th 7 pm.

Venues available: Lyndhurst Legion, Lyndhurst or Seeley's Bay Fire Halls.

Ken Davies motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Sunny Tessier. Motion passed. Meeting closed 9:09 pm.