

**PRESCOTT AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2005**

President Lisa Smith called the meeting to order at noon at the Bridgeview Restaurant. Present were: Vice-President Ralph Legere, Treasurer Allan Norton, Directors Sharon Spychi, Ken Rundle, Mike Baril, members Tim Ruhnke, Robert Haller, Matt Rowbotham, Tina Murray and guests Melissa Ablett and Bob Eaton. Minutes recorded by secretary Debbie Lawless.

- 1. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Ralph Legere introduced Bob Eaton, the Liberal Candidate for the upcoming Federal election in January 2006.
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda for December 14, 2005 was not approved as there was not a quorum present.
- 3. REVIEW OF AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST MONTH'S MINUTES:** No report presented.
- 4. APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES:** The minutes for November 16, 2005 were not approved as there was not a quorum present.
- 5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Lisa reported Melissa and Jason have reviewed the Chamber's website for errors and updates and changes have been made. Melissa is continuing to work on the Prescott information packages.

Melissa has completed the draft for the Chamber's by-laws and will forward it to all members for review in January 2006. She is also preparing a job description as a whole, working for all four organizations, as well as a breakdown of time and wages per organization which will be available in January for consideration. She has been working on an OSTAR application for the facade improvement program which the Downtown Steering Committee is pursuing.

On November 18, 2005 Lisa attended the luncheon hosted by the Ontario Senior Games Winterfest 2007 organizing committee. This event was an introduction to Winterfest and was attended by representatives from Athens, Brockville, Gananoque and Prescott. This event will bring several benefits to our area.

Lisa acknowledged the hard work of the Prescott Fire Department who again this year organized the fabulous night parade on November 18, 2005.

The Downtown Revitalization Steering Committee has held numerous meetings to review the received proposals. Interviews have been conducted with the architects that submitted proposals, as well as with a landscape architect.

Lisa wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Robert Haller noted the downtown plan is now completed and the final draft will be done Friday and hopefully launched soon. Also Melissa is presently working with the BIA on parking inventory and planning parking sites, etc.

- 6. VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** No report presented.
- 7. TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report for period ending November 30, 2005 was presented by Allan Norton. The report was not accepted as there was not a quorum present.
- 8. SECRETARY'S REPORT:** No report presented.

9. CORRESPONDENCE: A list of correspondence received for December 2005 was distributed to all present.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. FINANCE: No report presented.

2. PROGRAM AND PLANNING: Sharon Spychi reported the Chamber's Annual Dinner and Awards Banquet will be held on **Monday, April 24, 2006** at the Prescott Golf Club. Guest speaker will be Joanne Campbell, who grew up in Prescott and is now working for Kodak.

3. MEMBERSHIP: No report presented.

11. LIAISON REPORTS:

1. TOWN OF PRESCOTT: Robert Haller reported the town's sub-division development agreement is being drawn up and hopefully the lots will be ready to sell early in the new year.

Also no word has been received in regards to the new OPP detachment and the deadline has passed.

The official plan has been sent to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Council will get one last look when it is returned and resend it back to the Ministry for final approval.

Review of and development of new zoning bylaws will take place next year. Also Council will work on a Community Improvement Plan to develop concepts and incentives to improve local buildings.

Council is also presently working on the budget and water and sewer rates for 2006.

2. TOURISM: Melissa reported the new brochures will be printed by St. Lawrence Printing and is presently working on the layout of the brochures.

3. SGED COMMITTEE: No report presented.

4. BIA: No report presented.

12. NEW BUSINESS: Lisa noted a nominating committee needs to be formed for the election of the Board of Directors for 2006. Volunteering for this committee were Lisa Smith, Mike Baril, Ken Rundle and Sharon Spychi.

Lisa received a request from Eva Neron of Eva's Art Studio and Gallery which stated the snapshot mural of the CPR Railway depot has to be removed from its present site and asked if the Chamber would be interested in purchasing the mural. The cost of the mural is \$3000.00. Discussion was held and Robert Haller suggested this request be forwarded to the Town's steering Committee which includes all four groups for review.

13. OTHER BUSINESS: Our Annual General Meeting will be held on January 18, 2006. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Board please contact Lisa Smith at 925-4441 or Sharon Spychi at 925-5700.

14. NEXT MEETING: The next Board of Directors meeting, the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**, will take place on **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2006** at the **BRIDGEVIEW RESTAURANT** commencing at noon. **"Everyone Welcome"**.

15. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.