

**PRESCOTT AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JULY 19, 2006**

President Ralph Legere called the meeting to order at noon at the Bridgeview Restaurant. Present were Directors Bill Pakeman, Robert Lawn, Ray Young, Heather Lawless, Sharon Spychi, Ken Durand, Anne Sawyer, Mike Baril, Mary Lou Murray, Tina Murray, members Tim Ruhnke, Bryan Somerville, Elma Pyl and Joint Coordinator Monica Whitney. Minutes recorded by secretary Debbie Lawless.

1. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** No report.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda for July 19, 2006 was approved on motion by Bill Pakeman and seconded by Robert Lawn. (6 for 0 opposed). Carried.
3. **REVIEW OF AND BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST MONTH'S MINUTES:** No report.
4. **APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES:** The minutes for June 21, 2006 were approved as circulated on motion by Bill Pakeman and seconded by Heather Lawless. (8 for 0 opposed). Carried.
5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** No report presented.
6. **VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Monica Whitney presented the report on behalf of Lisa Smith.

Lisa attended the downtown steering committee meeting on June 22, 2006 and Joe McFarlane discussed the inventory survey for the downtown street improvement. The next meeting is August 3, 2006 and hopefully the survey will be available and the next items of actions can be discussed.

On June 29, 2006 Lisa attended the opening of the Canterbury Mark Perri Clinic and noted with the efforts of Mr Runciman, Mike McCrimmon, Director of the Clinic, Wilfred Peters and Mark Seymour they have enabled Prescott to have continued lab services which is an incredibly valuable asset to our community.

On July 14, 2006 Monica and Lisa attended a joint meeting with Wendy Onstein of the 1000 Islands Entrepreneurship Centre with representatives from Gananoque and Brockville to discuss a regional Bridges to Better Business seminar to be held in October 2006 in Brockville during Small Business week. Further details will follow regarding this event.

Lisa reported our Chamber will be sponsoring the evening of the Shakespeare Festival's play, Much Adoe About Nothing, on Saturday, August 5, 2006. Lisa stated this is a must see event and noted we are very fortunate to have so many talented and creative actors in our community and the caliber of the performance is beyond words.

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** No report presented.
8. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Debbie Lawless explained the design and costs for the new membership plaques. It was discussed and motioned by Ray Young and seconded by Robert Lawn to purchase 200 membership plaques for the Chamber from Ketchum Manufacturing Inc. In Brockville at a cost of approximately \$0.91 per plaque with a one time set up fee of \$120.00. (7 for 0 opposed). Carried. Debbie will contact Ketchum and inform them to begin production right away.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE:** A list of correspondence received for July 2006 was distributed to all present.

Item 1: Renewal for the Directors and Officers Liability coverage for one year was received from Edwards Insurance for \$621.00 and forwarded to Allan Norton for payment.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **FINANCE:** Monica Whitney reported on behalf of Lisa Smith an informal meeting was held in regards to advertising in the Spencerville Fair brochure. Four out of five members felt the Chamber should support this funding request as Spencerville is within our district and showing a presence and supporting this event would

benefit both the Chamber and the fair as the fair is very well attended. It was recommended the Board approve a business size card ad for \$250.00. Also the fair brochure is in full color with 30,000 copies being printed and 22,000 distributed to individual households.

Discussion was held and there was concern whether all or part of donations were going to the fair board or all to advertising. Heather Lawless suggested donating the \$250.00 and to let the fair board decide where they wish to use the proceeds. Bill Pakeman motioned and Tina Murray seconded to donate \$250.00 toward the Spencerville Fair brochure advertising. After discussion amendment was made to the above motion. Bill Pakeman motioned and Tina Murray seconded the Chamber donate \$250.00, as requested, to the Spencerville fair board with the fair board deciding to distribute the monies toward the brochure advertising or to the board only. (8 for 0 opposed). Carried.

2. PROGRAM AND PLANNING: Mary Lou Murray reported the committee is presently organizing the Chamber's upcoming Annual Golf Tournament to be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2006 at the Prescott Golf Club.

A silent auction is once again being held and donations are needed. For more information and to donate prizes please contact Mary Lou at 925-5265 or drop off your donation at the Royal Bank in Prescott.

Bill Pakeman noted he is marketing the Chamber's group insurance plan in the Brockville/Cornwall area and met with a Cornwall Chamber of Commerce director who described their membership directory and Bill suggested our Chamber produce one next year like theirs. Ralph Legere suggested forming a committee in the spring to review this idea and noted the advertising would pay for the cost of the directories.

3. MEMBERSHIP: Bill Pakeman reported two new members.

South Grenville Employment
Resource Centre,
Prescott, Ontario
(Small business counseling)

Tracy Barkley,
Prescott, Ontario
(Massage Therapist)

These two new members were approved on motion by Bill Pakeman and seconded by Anne Sawyer. (9 for 0 opposed). Carried.

11. LIAISON REPORTS:

1. TOWN OF PRESCOTT: Robert Lawn reported the water plant study has been approved and also the OPP detachment site plan was passed and it will hopefully open in November 2006. Sidewalks are presently being repaired also.

Council has approved to establish a VON Mobile Clinic which will visit 16 different locations on a regular basis for those who do not have a general practitioner to serve their needs. The clinic received funding from the EODF (Federal government) and also the provincial government.

Council is also working on extending the Waterfront Trail to Brockville.

2. TOURISM: Monica noted there are two summer students working at the Tourism Booth which is open seven days a week and more heritage street signs have been erected.

3. SGED COMMITTEE: Heather Lawless reported the committee's next meeting will take place on July 26, 2006 in Spencerville.

4. GCFDC: Heather Lawless reported this committee will meet tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. at the Town Hall in Prescott.

Also no word has been received to date in regards to the Eastern Ontario Development Fund.

5. **BIA:** No report presented.

6. **JOINT COORDINATOR:** Monica Whitney reported she is presently surveying all BIA members for their anniversary dates in order to celebrate these significant dates. Also an ad has been prepared to attract out of town people to attend the Shakespeare Festival which runs July 15 to August 12, 2006.

Monica is presently working with all groups on the Positively Prescott Ambassador program which will promote Prescott by featuring an ad each week in the Journal showing what Prescott has to offer i.e. accommodations, restaurants, shopping, events, etc. Monica has requested \$100.00 from all groups (BIA, Tourism, Chamber, Economic Development), for advertising expenses for the program. Discussion was held and it was motioned by Ken Durand and seconded by Sharon Spychi to donate \$100.00 for advertising for the Positively Prescott program. (10 for 0 opposed). Carried.

This program also offers prizes for people being “caught” promoting Prescott. Secret shoppers will be looking for places to stay, places to eat, etc. A launch party will be held to introduce people to the concept and familiarize them with basic Prescott information.

Monica noted the Chamber’s website and domain name needs to be renewed and will cost \$50.00. It was discussed and motioned by Ray Young and seconded by Mike Baril the Chamber renew the website and domain name through Jason Rooney of Red Top Design at a cost of \$50.00. (9 for 0 opposed). Carried.

Monica also noted she is working on a Shakespeare draw through the Manotick Messenger newspaper which will give away four \$100 prizes which include two Shakespeare tickets, a \$40.00 dinner gift certificate and a \$20.00 gas coupon.

12. **NEW BUSINESS:** Ken Durand reported the Rotary Club is presently selling bricks to help the club finish building the Heritage River Trail Picnic Pavilion. Non-engraved bricks are \$5.00 each and inscribed bricks are \$50.00 each. Order forms to purchase bricks are available at local banks and any Rotarian or call 925-2484. Tax receipts are also available.

Also Shakespeare had 315 people attending opening night and last year’s attendance was approximately 135. The performance is fantastic and the acting is tremendous. Robert Lawn noted he has received many compliments and a great review was printed in today’s Journal. He also noted the town donated zero dollars to the opening night party and the food was donated and the party was organized by volunteers.

13. **OTHER BUSINESS:** Bill Pakeman reported he was invited to the SEB program function by Mayor Tekamp of Brockville to explain the Chamber’s group insurance plan.

Mike Baril thanked all those who attended the car show held in July, the media and all those who helped with this event.

14. **NEXT MEETING:** the next Board of Directors meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2006** at the **BRIDGEVIEW RESTAURANT** commencing at noon. **“EVERYONE WELCOME”**.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m. on motion by Bill Pakeman and seconded by Mary Lou Murray. (6 for 0 opposed). Carried.