

**PRESCOTT AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

June 15, 2011

President Jen Wyman called the meeting to order at noon at the Bridgeview Restaurant. Present were Vice-President Don Rivoire, Directors Julie Marshall, Pat Sayeau, Robert Lawn, Dan Cook, Shawn Lockett, Brent Laton, Beth Morris, Jim French, Bill Pakeman, Heather Lawless, Roger Rhodes, members Shaun Kelly, Ted Livingston, Doug Malanka, Dan Roddick, Tina Murray, Randy Helmer, Rebecca Campbell, Larry Dishaw. In the absence of Secretary Debbie Lawless, the minutes were recorded by Beth Morris.

1. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Jen Wyman reported that a Business After 5 event will be hosted by St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival on June 16 at the amphitheatre featuring entertainment by actors and singers from this year's plays.

2. **VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** The new logo revisions are still in the works and will be available soon.

3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** none

4. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** none

5. **CORRESPONDENCE:** The Chamber has received an invitation from the Ogdensburg Chamber of Commerce to their semi-monthly Board meetings. Jen Wyman will look into the details and circulate in the hopes that some directors will attend. Shawn Lockett asked if the Prescott and District Chamber of commerce has reciprocated the offer. It was noted that we always extend an invitation to the Annual Awards Banquet, and members of the Ogdensburg Chamber attended the recent Business After 5 at the Ethanol Plant.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **FOCUSING COMMITTEE:** Pat Sayeau presented a report from the Refocus Committee which was circulated to directors, and is attached with the minutes. The main recommendation of the committee is to contact the existing web site designer/host to determine the cost of updating the site. It is anticipated that this approach would save time and money. The committee also recommends that the Chamber produce a presentation folder using the new logo and vision statement.

2. **MEMBERSHIP:** Bill Pakeman reported no new members.

3. **FINANCE:** Bill Pakeman reported the Finance Committee has three requests for funding; St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival, Harbour Days, and Sunday night Concerts. The recommendation was to table these requests while the Finance committee works on completing the budget for the year.

4. **PROGRAM AND PLANNING:** No report

7. LIAISON REPORTS:

1. **TOWN OF PRESCOTT:** Robert Lawn gave a report on current issues
2. **TOWNSHIP OF AUGUSTA:** Doug Malanka gave a report on current issues
3. **TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL:** No report
4. **GCFDC:** Funds for programs are in the Federal Budget. Treasury Board will implement plans and distribute funds according to their own schedule.
 - Invitation extended to AGM takes place Friday, June 24 at North Grenville Municipal Centre in Kemptville, breakfast 8:30am, meeting 9:00 – 10:30am.
5. **BIA:** Beth Morris reported flower baskets have been hung, and the planters have been painted and planted. Comments have been very favourable.
 - The BIA will be sponsoring a sidewalk sale in connection with Harbour Days on Saturday, June 19.
 - the BIA is in the process of hiring someone to “manage” the process of beautification, marketing and promotion, which are the mandates of a BIA.
 - the BIA now has a complete slate of directors, with the addition of Rebecca Campbell and Bonnie Gommert
6. **TOURISM:** Shaun Kelly reported on the following:
 - “The Great Waterway” website is live – the greatwaterway.com – (Tourism Region 9 – RTO9). An advertising campaign will begin soon using TV spots like Ellen, Canad AM, CTV News, CSI, Regis & Kelly, The View, etc.
 - Regional media/stakeholder launch happening soon.
 - Harbour days this weekend starting with a small parade.
 - The brochure for Prescott is completed.
 - Dining Guide – this would be a small tabloid type paper featuring the local restaurants, to be given out at places like the marina, or bed and breakfasts, etc.
 - Representatives from the Township of Augusta and the Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal were asked to obtain expressions of interest from venues within their municipalities and to gather menus from those locations. Discussion took place about the possibility of charging advertising rates. The directors felt that the Chamber should not subsidize such a piece, but recognizes the value for tourism in the area.

12. **NEW BUSINESS:** Moved by Jim French, seconded by Brent Laton that Dan Roddick (Edward Jones – Financial Advisor) be appointed as a Director of the Prescott and district Chamber of Commerce. Motion carried.

Moved by Pat Sayeau, seconded by Shaun Lockett, that Doug Malanka (Councillor township of Augusta) be appointed as a Director of the Prescott and district Chamber of Commerce. A discussion followed as to how Doug would qualify to act as a Director. Jennifer will clarify whether the Township of Augusta is a member.

The motion was withdrawn by Pat Sayeau.

Tina Murray (Dominion Lending Centres) reported on two items available through DLC. The first is access to Capital Funds based upon Debit Card activity within the business and is suited for small business enterprises. The second is the availability of a leasing program, and Tina outlined some of the benefits of leasing.

13. **OTHER BUSINESS:** No report.

14. **NEXT MEETING:** The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2011** commencing at noon. "Everyone Welcome"

15. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned on motion by Brent Laton and seconded by Robert Lawn. Carried.