

**PRESCOTT AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 22, 2010**

President Brent Laton called the meeting to order at noon at the Red George Public House. Present were Vice-President Jen Wyman, Directors Robert Lawn, Ray Young, Julie Marshall, Heather Lawless, Dan Cook, Pat Sayeau, Beth Morris, Jessie De Vries, Bonnie Gommert, members Larry Dishaw, Hugh Cameron, Don Rivoire, Don Farnsworth, Suzanne Dodge, Tim Ruhnke and guests Shawn Kelly and Samantha Joudoin. Minutes recorded by secretary Debbie Lawless.

1. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Heather Lawless introduced Samantha Joudoin, Youth Intern for Business and Program Development at GCFDC.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda was approved on motion by Jen Wyman and seconded by Julie Marshall. (7 for, 0 opposed). Carried.

3. **REVIEW OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES:** Jen Wyman noted volunteers will be needed to form the Chamber's 2011 Annual Dinner committee and then a meeting can be set up to discuss plans, ideas, suggestions, etc. Volunteering for the committee were Bonnie Gommert and Heather Lawless. Please contact Jen at 925-1969 if you are able to volunteer.

Also Brent Laton noted once elections are over he is hoping to get back with Council and put together a working group regarding the Farmers' Market.

4. **APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES:** The minutes for August 18, 2010 were approved as circulated on motion by Pat Sayeau and seconded by Robert Lawn. (7 for, 0 opposed). Carried.

5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Brent Laton reported he had attended the United Counties of L/G 2010 "Future Directions" Economic Development summit. The Counties introduced their new logo and brand and discussed their progress plan. More info will follow.

Brent also attended the downtown meeting held last week to discuss downtown revitalization. Many interesting ideas were presented and information has been gathered regarding buildings, etc. available in Prescott in hopes people will bring their businesses here. Several plans made in the past are available but they need to be put into action. After the election, Brent suggested holding an Economic Development roundtable with the town, BIA and Chamber.

Ray Young noted, in his opinion, the most important point the speaker made was nothing will happen unless you give a person sole responsibility to do the job

Robert Lawn noted it was a very good session but felt participants needed more time to dialogue but felt the roundtable idea is a good next step and from the roundtable, better people can be recruited.

Heather offered GCFDC services to help with downtown revitalization.

Ray noted also Minister of State (Science and Technology) Gary Goodyear spoke highly of the program and supported it and also MP Brown and MPP Runciman supported the program as well.

Brent thanked the eight chamber directors who attended the meeting.

6. **VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Jen Wyman thanked all those who helped with the Chamber's golf tournament. There were 109 golfers attending with 22 extra dinners sold. Approximately \$5600.00 was made. Some expenses are yet to be paid and monies owing received.

It was suggested a list of donations for 2009 be emailed to all members and also a list be established to prioritize donations for the coming year. It was discussed and motioned by Beth Morris and seconded by Pat Sayeau a list of 2009 donations be emailed to all members. (6 for, 0 opposed) Carried.

It was also motioned by Beth Morris and seconded by Pat Sayeau a list be established to prioritize donations for the coming year. (8 for, 0 opposed) Carried.

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** The treasurer's report was presented by treasurer Debbie Lawless for period ending August 31, 2010. The report was accepted on motion by Heather Lawless and seconded by Bonnie Gommert. (7 for, 0 opposed). Carried. Copy enclosed.

8. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** No report.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE:** A list of correspondence received for September 2010 was distributed to all present.

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **FINANCE:** No report.

2. **PROGRAM AND PLANNING:** Jen noted she is planning Business After 5 events with venues at the Port of Prescott and Prescott Town Hall.

She is also working with Lisa Smith and looking into holding a Business After 5 event at the Art Gallery located over the flower shop.

Volunteers are welcome to help out and any ideas for Christmas events would be appreciated and you may contact Jen at 925-1969 to volunteer.

3. **MEMBERSHIP:** No report.

11. **LIAISON REPORTS:**

1. **TOWN OF PRESCOTT:** Mayor Suzanne Dodge reported she attended the Ontario East Conference and noted workshops were innovative and it was a good way to get ideas of

what other municipalities are doing.

She also noted Prescott's downtown meetings will be ongoing.

The proposed Ann Street development is being brought back to the committee. The two units to be built on Churchill Road have been awarded now and building permits are up.

A new business, Edward Jones, has now opened on King Street.

The Food Bank Bottom Line Challenge was busy but the food bank still needs your support.

2. **AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP:** No report.

3. **EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL TOWNSHIP:** Mayor Larry Dishaw reported the following:

- the township has a new CAO Michael Wildman
- county approval has been received for the Meadowland 49 lot subdivision and another 50 lots can be added
- the owner/developer of the 95 lots in Edwardsburgh Gardens is moving forward with engineering firm
- TODS signs on 401/416 are now changed promoting Edwardsburgh/Cardinal, as partner unwilling to support ongoing costs, township decided to go on their own
- site plan control agreement passed allowing MT Investments to build 12,700 square foot warehouse building plus 1,260 square foot office on Commerce Drive across from Prysmian Cables which will hold their future transportation company
- roof top solar panels now on Empire Hanna Road, Cardinal Mall and Hasiuk Containers
- have held public meetings with South Branch Wind Farm and Penn Energy Solar Farm
- Building Department reported 25 new homes for fourth straight year (values \$17.5 million and permit fees \$118,000 - 2010 record)
- new business startups include St. Lawrence Printing and Countryman's Winery
- the UCLG is moving toward a new County Official Plan and the county is to also move forward with expressions of interest in ED 19 county landfill site at Byers Road
- township has had contact with Cruikshank/Tomlinson representatives on ED 19 subject
- regarding Port of Prescott the \$5.5 million bin annex project, the bins are complete, conveyor tie in to elevator building is in progress and on budget
- regarding the \$34.5 million wharf project, township has satisfied MNR conditions, management board accepted final design, MOE approvals branch preparing legal documents for signature, now awaiting Declaration Order for Ministry's signature to take into phase one tender then construction

4. **GCFDC:** Heather Lawless reported approximately 700 attended the Ontario East Conference.

Thirteen new entrepreneurs started the SEB program. Next orientation and info session will be November 4, 2010 at the Prescott Town Hall. Contact Cathy Gilmer at 92-4275 x 25 for more info or go to www.grenvillecfdc.com. Next program is to start January 2011.

Small Business week runs from October 17 to 23, 2010. GCFDC is sponsoring an event on October 19 from 7-9 p.m. at North Grenville Municipal Centre with guest speakers Tom Graham on Marketing and Gary Walsh on Succession Planning.

Bridges to Better Business event "How to Find and Sell to Your Target Market" will be held October 20, 2010 from 8:30 a.m to 2:30 pm.at CJ's Banquet Hall in Brockville. Call 342-8772 x 471 for more info.

5. **BIA:** Ray Young reported the Pirate Days event was successful and Karen Chick did a great job and he thanked the Chamber for their donation.

Fall and Christmas event planning is taking place now and the BIA needs a new Chair person, if interested contact Ray at 925-2484.

Beth Morris noted 25 SGDHS grade 10 students will be doing scenes of an old fashioned Christmas on store window's reflecting the Bi-Centennial celebration.

The Lite Up the Night Christmas parade is scheduled for Friday, November 19, 2010.

12. **NEW BUSINESS:** Suzanne Dodge reported funding has been received to do the Bi-Centennial Mural and 5,280 photos of Prescott are needed to create a huge pixel to enhance the wall.

13. **OTHER BUSINESS:** The Morris Group is sponsoring an All Candidates meeting on Wednesday, October 13, 2010 from 7-10 p.m. at SGDHS.

Julie Marshall noted the Brockville General Hospital Benefit Gala was a sellout and thanked everyone for their support.

Also CSE (South Grenville Employment Resource Centre) is relocating to 191 King Street, East in Prescott across from Mr. Gas.

Bonnie Gommert read a thank you letter for the Chamber's donation toward emergency food and reminded everyone to buy local, as the food is distributed here and all monies stay here. She also noted the Annual Bottom Line food Challenge event recently held brought in 5000 items and \$2,800 but help is still needed and will be ongoing. She also thanked local politicians for attending this event.

14. **NEXT MEETING:** The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2010** at the **RED GEORGE PUBLIC HOUSE** commencing at noon. "Everyone Welcome"

15. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m. on motion by Dan Cook and seconded by Jen Wyman. (6 for, 0 opposed). Carried.

DONATIONS MADE IN 2009

JANUARY

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Bursary | 300.00 |
| Loyalist Days | 1000.00 |
| Harbor Days | 1000.00 |
| Highland Games | 500.00 |
| Fire Dept. Games | 100.00 |
| Flowers | 180.80 |

APRIL

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| Shakespeare | 1500.00 |
| Connect Youth | 250.00 |

JUNE

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| N. A. Labor Day | 500.00 |
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JULY

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| Food For All | 500.00 |
| Fort Town Concerts | 500.00 |
| Cycling Event | 600.00 |

SEPTEMBER

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| Pirate Days | 500.00 |
|-------------|--------|

OCTOBER

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|----------------|---------|
| Shakespeare | 2000.00 |
| King's Kitchen | 150.00 |
| Xmas Parade | 500.00 |

TOTAL: \$10,080.00