Chairperson: President Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler

Board Members Present: Deb Coles, Blinda Campbell, Rod Palmer, Lisa Temple, Andrea Derochie, Ben Quenneville

Board Members Regrets: Lynda Joanisse

Board Members Absent: Joe Martelle, Tim MacKay

In Attendance: Heather Lawless – Grenville CFDC, Sandra Lawn,

Mika North, Karen Cutts, Anne-Marie Langan-The Legal Clinic

**Welcome and Call to Order** – President Bonnie Pidgeon-Cougler

Bonnie welcomed the attendees to the Spencerville Legion. She emphasized that since the chamber encompasses all of South Grenville, it is good to have our meetings at various venues throughout the South Grenville area.

A quorum was confirmed.

Due to time restraints, the HR portion of the agenda was moved to the beginning of the meeting. Bonnie reported Andrea has been working on the website to create a more efficient and effective website through Chamber Master. However Andrea cannot devote as much time to this project as she did previously so the HR Committee talked about a contract position for 14 weeks (15 hours a week).

Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler put a motion on the table

Motion to hire a contract person for 14 weeks (15 hours a week) @ $18.00 per hour.

Seconded by Rod Palmer **Motion Carried**

**Approval of October’s Agenda**

**Moved by Blinda Campbell**

To Approve October’s Agenda

**Seconded by Lisa Temple Motion Carried**

**Approval of September’s Minutes**

**Moved by Ben Quenneville**

To Approve September’s Minutes

**Seconded by Andrea Derochie Motion Carried**

**Introduction of Guests:**

Bonnie introduced Karen Cutts, one of the directors of the South Grenville Food Bank. Karen did a presentation on the 3rd annual South Grenville Food Bank radiothon which will be held on Friday, December 6th from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Coast FM 107.9 radio station. Their objective this year is to not let any child go hungry. Karen gave an overview of how area businesses could contribute to this radiothon and also have the opportunity to get free local advertising. A letter will be going out to all chamber members. The day of the radiothon there will be 12 hour spots where businesses can purchase a spot for $250.00. The business will get an opportunity to record 4 messages that will be played during their designated hour on December 6. Businesses can pre-record their message if they are not available on December 6. Contest will run from November 12 – December 3.

Rod Palmer put a motion on the table that the chamber distribute a letter to all the chamber members inviting them to participate in the radiothon.

**Seconded by Blinda Campbell Motion Carried**

**Liaison Highlight Reports (5 minutes each)**

* **BIA**

Ben reported that the BIA’s focus is on staffing. They are going to bring someone in to work for the BIA for the next couple of months until they have full time staffing in the new year.

They have been looking at storefronts for the BIA. They believe that it is important to have a presence in downtown Prescott. Ben has offered part of his storefront for the BIA and possibly eventually the South Grenville Chamber of Commerce.

* **GCFDC**

Heather Lawless commented that the Grenville CFDC programs and services are still available for businesses that are undertaking innovative activities that might need some assistance. Heather commented that the Grenville CFDC is supporting the work of the Leeds Grenville Small Business Enterprise Centre and their Bridges to Better Business Conference that is happening on October 24. They are also supporting the United Counties of Leeds Grenville who are hosting the Economic Summit – November 22 in North Grenville.

* **Town of Prescott – no report**
* **Augusta Township**

Jeff Shaver, the deputy mayor, was unable to attend the meeting. Bonnie reported that she attended the open house for the Firehall in Augusta.

* **Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal** – no report

**Sexual Harassment Workshops**

A lawyer, Anne-Marie Langan from the Legal Clinic in Perth was a guest at the Chamber meeting. She talked about a new initiative that is funded by the federal government. This project will provide public legal education to employers and employees around sexual harassment in the workplace. Anne-Marie is available to give presentations on this topic in this area. Bonnie commented that the board will discuss the possibility of having Anne-Marie come back to do a seminar.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Deborah Coles

Deb is still waiting for some of the revenue to come in from the golf tournament and she is getting some of the revenue in for the awards banquet.

**Moved by Lisa Temple**

To accept Treasurer’s report as presented

**Seconded by Rod Palmer Motion Carried**

**Moved by Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler**

To add the following people to the CRA. We are going to add Deb Coles as the treasurer, Blinda Campbell as the chair of the finance committee and Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler as the president of the board. These names will be allowed to stand as CRA names.

**Seconded by Lisa Temple Motion Carried**

**Secretary’s Report:**

Joan gave an update on the Annual Awards Banquet. She stated that there were between 40 and 50 people who have confirmed so far. The list of the nominees will be sent out to the chamber membership.

**Committee Reports:**

1. **Membership**

**Moved by Andrea Derochie**

To accept Priceka Management Consulting Inc. and EZcard Digital LLC as members of the South Grenville Chamber of Commerce

**Seconded by Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler Motion Carried**

1. **Marketing and Communication**

Blinda highlighted some of the activities that are going on in the next month. The Zombie Walk, Pub Crawl, the Awards Banquet on October 29 and the parade on November 15. November 20th is the next Board Meeting which will be hosted by the Bank of Montreal. January is the AGM. The committee will be looking at different businesses to do a Business After 5 event during the first several months of 2020.

**General Business**

Sandra Lawn talked about tourism. She attended the AGM Southeastern Ontario Tourism event in Kingston and picked up a lot of valuable information.

**Moved by Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler**

To adjourn the meeting of October 16, 2019

**Motion Carried**

Meeting adjourned 9:06 a.m.

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President Date

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Secretary Date