



South Grenville Chamber of Commerce

Bank of Montreal Upper room

Thursday Feb 6<sup>th</sup> , 2020

*"Building bridges to better business in Augusta, Edwardsburgh/Cardinal and Prescott."*

Chairperson: President Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler

Present: Deb Coles, Blinda Campbell, Rod Palmer, Lisa Temple, Ben Quenneville(via Telephone), Joe Martelle Dana Valentyne, Marina Laker, Treasurer, Rod Palmer, Bob Larrett, Gauri Shankar (ToP) Sandra Lawn, Lynda Joanisse, Heather Lawless, Pat Sayeau (Mayor – TWP-EC), Deb Coles, Mika North, Blinda Campbell,

Board Members Absent: Tim MacKay

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

**Confirm Quorum Present**

**Introduction of Guests**

**Approval of February's Agenda**

**Moved by Rod Palmer, Seconded by Blinda Campbell**

**Motion Carried**

**Approval of December's Minutes**

**Moved by Robert, Seconded by Rod Palmer**

**Motion Carried**

**Approval of the minutes from Planning Meeting – January 23, 2020**

**Moved By Lynda Joanisse , Seconded by Blinda Campbell**

**Motion Carried**

**President's Greetings & Report** – President Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler

**Notes:**

**Ontario Chamber Association** – Kingston, Brockville, South Grenville all involved and included.

Priorities: Help with Broadband in rural areas, VIA Rail and having a louder voice in Eastern Ontario.

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

- BIA
  - – Ben Quenneville via phone – AGM moved to March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm to be held at the Colonel's Inn in Prescott.
  - Wrapping Fiscal year March 31
  
- GCFDC
  - Grants available, loan funds Presenting Feb 21 @ Merc Hall
  - Feb 19 – Woman's Group 9-11 @ Little Sisters Restaurant FOCUS: Microfinancing for female entrepreneurs

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- Training and mentorship Grenville CFDC
- Town of Prescott – Representative Gauri Shankar
  - Collaboration possibilities - Consensus – good for all
  - Action items to be completed before we move forward
- Augusta Township – No rep present
  - Doug offers regrets
- Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal – Pat Sayeau
  - 3 meetings away from Budget 2020
    - Heavy snowfalls in 2019 to be considered
  - vote of support to Merc Hall Meeting
  - Mention of heavy military presence in the neighbourhood because of line removal VIA, equipment had to be brought by road.
  - BBL energy – plastic to diesel fuel at old Prescott Welding building – 3 positions advertised
  - Ontario Jobsite Challenge
    - Purpose – looking for large land sites (serviceable) for large scale manufacturing
    - Cedar Rd. site nominated
    - Deadline: March 31<sup>st</sup> – 2 months respond time upon receipt of Town’s proposal.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Deborah Coles

**Moved by Deborah, Seconded by Jeff Larrett**

**Motion Carried**

**Committee Reports:**

1. Memberships – Andrea Derochie/Mika North
  - a. Meeting with Chamber Master Feb 7<sup>th</sup> for invoicing
  - b. Prepaid for 2018
  - c. Looking into Credit card options with Blinda Capmbell – to weigh underlying costs and look at the bigger picture (rev. off-site)

**Motion by Blinds Campbell to allow credit card access on website Second by Deb Coles** **Motion Carried**

- d. Information for members to be presented at the AGM – changes being made to allow members to edit their own info on the chamber site.

**Motion to accept Green Things as member Blinda Campbell, Seconded by Deb Coles -** **Motion Carried**

Greenergy? – Invoice sent , called to welcome

2. HR Committee – Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler – No updates shared, next meeting

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3. Marketing and Communications – Blinda Campbell
  - a. Liasoning with Chamber Master Team
  - b. 3 way partnership and collaboration being worked out
  - c. Calendar of events will be set soon
  - d. Events committee meetings occur Mondays at 3:00pm at the SG Foodbank – all are welcome to join!

**General Business:**

JOB FAIR – Rod – 6<sup>th</sup> Annual – to be held at the Leo Boivin Centre Thurs Feb 27 1:00pm-4:00pm

UPDATE – Pathways Program (Manufacturing) – in the follow up stage

All who received jobs have remained

BONUSES for Businesses: 2 week placement- Reimbursement plus \$1000.00 signing bonus for offering continued employment

DANCING WITH THE STARS – March 7<sup>th</sup> – Darren & Bonnie represent – Team Prescott!

B2B – Rod Palmer extends invitation to more B2B breakfasts 7:00am Maynard Hall

SUMMER JOB DEADLINE – February 24<sup>th</sup> – 50% support

MAYOR's Breakfast – March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Grenville Snowmobile Club

**Closing Remarks** – President Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler

Adjournment

**Motioned by Blinda Campbell, Seconded by Deb Coles**

**Motion Carried**

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