



*“Building bridges to better business in Augusta,
Edwardsburg/Cardinal and Prescott”*

Date: March 14, 2023

In Attendance: Bonnie Pidgeon, Blinda Campbell, Sean Lucey, Kevvin Spencer, Pynda Joannis, Lindsey Fox, Brittany, Sandra Lawn, Nathalie Sohie, Ron Bulmer (Golf Cub) Steve Martineau((PGC), Andrea Derochie, Jon Marshall (south Grenville Beacon), The Honourable Gauri Shankur, Deb coles, Steve Dillabough, Adrian Wymand

Regrets: Rod Palmer

1:06pm - President’s Greetings & Report – President Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler

Welcome and Thank you to Sean Lucey & Bridgeview for hosting

Approval of Agenda - Andrea - Seconded - Blinda - **Motion Carried**

Approval of the minutes of February 14,2023 as presented or amended - Blinda Seconded - Nathalie **Motion Carried**

Committee Reports:

1. **Secretary Reports** – AMG updates - Lynda Joannis - AGM Update - 25 registered - Goal: 30 + Rod Palmer has organized all aspects with the Prescott Golf Club, Lynda working on Portfolio reports and AGM package to go out in the next few days

2. **Reports from Townships** -

A) Town of Prescott: Update: Dana Vallentyne : Excited about Spring Summer Projects - Poutine Fest May 25th - 28th

Promenade returning this year every weekend May thru Sept - Great Activities - Water S

Pop Ups almost fully committed - 6 pop ups and 2-3 food vendors, Farmers Market moving to promenade Grand opening May 6th - Industrial Development Blacks Creek Innovations - May 6th - Business Opening RiverHomeCo. Dollarama, Lounge Restaurant and Bar, Renegade’s Bar and Lounge and Subway to name a few

Nominations - for Yearly awards for the Town of Prescott OPEN for submission - need for nominations Business/Citizen and Business of the Year - Please spread the word! Visit Website and facebook page

B) Augusta Township - Budget was passed last night Mayors breakfast coming up March 31st - Exciting Announcements to make - tickets available thru website or office - e-transfer payments accepted

C) Township of Edwardsburg/Cardinal - Approved budget last night after 4 meetings - lots of capital projects - new sewer and water in Cardinal

The vision of the South Grenville Chamber of Commerce is to build prosperous communities for Augusta, Edwardsburg/Cardinal & Prescott by increasing business retention and economic growth, through teamwork and innovation.

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Thursday - Meeting with Steve Clark, Mayor and (myself along with the minister of transportation - will keep us updated

Bus has been continued for another year - same price point - possible connection with Brockville Theatre - plan for the summer. Every month ridership is going up. Support transportation by using and sharing info. Spencerville business Association having a meet and greet and fundraiser this weekend March 18th at the Legion 1:00pm - 3:00m

Upcoming Event: OPP FRAUD Prevention rescheduled to March 28th at 10am at the Cardinal Legion

Bonnie - Tabled adding Spencerville BIA to our agenda for meetings.

3. **GCFDC** - No report to be filed

4. **BIA** - Newly appointed BIA Chair - Blinda Campbell Vice Chair - Kevin Buncec Treasurer: Nidesh Naidu (Sub Shop Building owner) Secretary: chrity Moran (Cuts&Curls)

Setting up sub-committees and will be in touch with exciting news of plans and goals

Q: (Ron Bulmer) : Canadian Dollar - promotions on south side of river?

A: 100% - Chamber and BIA both have it on the radar. Philosophy - Ensuring Repeat visits - no immediate marketing in May as we perfect the product but do hope to advertise in late Spring early summer.

Ron - Great opportunity -marketing materials can be shared ith American golfers

Dana - Also offered to partner with Golf Club and other tourism businesses. Quebec and the States are a focus of Prescott

Ron- Sponsorship opportunities at Golf Club for coffee donuts etc. ALL excited and will consider - Wednesday June 14th - Senior Golf Association of Northern New York - ONLY CANADIAN CLUB INVOLVED

ACTION ITEM: Connect with Ogdensburg Chamber

Treasurer's Report - Deborah Coles - No new reports to be filed

Membership Report- Andrea Derochie / Lindsey Fox - Please ensure that your membership is active - especially those interested in sitting on the Board

No new members to approve at this meeting.

Invoices have been sent out - must be settled before date of AGM March 28th

Chamber Master : Motion: Moving forward - we will be using the basic ChamberMaster System for all working aspects of the Chamber Business Seconder: Blinda - **Motion Carried**

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SLSF Report- Sandra Lawn - Shakespeare Festival - Working hard on Summer Program - Excited to have the charity Gold Tournament on Labour Day MMonday - Dave Darbey an integral part of organizing the tournament

Looking to shape our marketing to be more aggressive Fundraising events to be announced shortly

Designation of the Upper St. Lawrence has been passed and now forwarded to the province for final approval **ACTION ITEM:** Sandra Lawn to present full report at next meeting.

Q: Does Shakespeare Festival invite High School Kids to the program? A: Summer Camps and other community events and connections to be explored and solidified A: Looking to educate ourselves to possibly expanding on service

Closing Remarks – President Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler

Motion to adjourn Sean Lucey, Seconder Nathalie - **Meeting Adjourned 1:48pm**

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