

## **Bridgetown and Area Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting April 17, 2014**

Attendance: Neil Cook, Andy Kerr, Anne Crossman, Clark Morris, Mayor and Rita Hurlburt, Gerry Bezanson, Kirk Lycett

Meeting called to order at 8:00 AM by Chair Neil Cook with a welcome to all.

Minutes from March 20, 2014 meeting were approved with correction to an attendees name.

No business arising from minutes.

No Finance Report as Gary was absent.

### **New Business:**

Anne advised there is a community map on the new Bridgetown website. There are three volunteers recording all heritage properties in local area and promoting a heritage trail as there are so many properties dating pre-1914. Andy advised anyone can add information to the map by completing a form online, helping to build map.

### **Membership:**

Andy offered some interim billing solutions to Mike and Tracy for new and existing members. They have started knocking on doors and there is an interest from a business in Centreville and Hantsport to become members due to change in AVCC insurance coverage, while we continue to have Preston & Assoc. provide business health insurance.

### **Ciderfest:**

Festival will be held Sept. 10th to 14th, 2014 and the theme is "Orchards of Fun". Childrens parade will be same theme. Neil suggested the Chamber enter a float in the parade, using the current trailer and to encourage businesses decorate their windows, and try to involve the local population to decorate their homes.

**From The Town:**

Mayor Hurlburt advised there is a new CAO in place, Kevin Matheson.

He also gave a brief overview of the dissolution of the Town which will take a year to complete. Several people who will offer input and information, have been contacted regarding the transition. This will be a heavy agenda as numerous steps have to be started now, such as the continuation of services, RCMP, Fire Dept., etc. Boundaries will be reviewed also, with the possibility of 1200 people per councillor. As of April 1, 2015 Mayor will be the County Councillor for Bridgetown.

He advised that the dissolution will not have any impact on the new school site. There will be public information sessions presented on the dissolution as this process moves along.

**Tourism;**

Ainsley Bertram, NSTA will be our liaison. We have received okay from Federal gov't for one student; we may also get a student from HRDC along with a manager.

Andy attended the ferry arrival in Yarmouth and the ceremony was very well received. There was a tour of the ferry with lunch on board. The terminal will be refitted entirely.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am

Next meeting May 15, 2014