

Bridgetown Area Chamber of Commerce General Meeting November 21, 2013

Attendance: Chair Neil Cook, Mayor Hurlburt, Rita Hurlburt, Gerry Bezanson, Chantelle Reid, Mike Gushue, Clark Morris, Tim Habinski, Andy Kerr, Jennifer D'Aubin, new member Dianne Elliott, Bottomline Business Solutions. Regrets: Gary Olsvik, Tracy Forbes. Special guest Jenny Hardy for Chamber Insurance.

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

Minutes of last meeting approved.

No business arising from minutes. Neil has made slight edits to the letter to be sent to the community advising what the BACC is all about.

Xmas Lights – Mayor Hurlburt advised he has received 30 sets LED lights from Efficiency Nova Scotia, who will also be at the tree lighting ceremony for the light exchange. The lights will be installed on the trees on Queen St. before Moonlight Madness, Mayor Hurlburt advised that the public works crew will not be available to help with the installation. Neil responded with regret that the Town cannot help as the Moonlight Madness event is a benefit to businesses.

Food Bank - The food bank has to find new accommodations by January 2014 for storage and sorting and housing the fridges and freezers. They are presently looking at locations throughout town, including downstairs at the Legion and the old Fire Hall. This is a desperate need for the community.

Moonlight Madness- The flyer is being printed and will be at the Post Office for distribution next week. There are a couple new business promotions for those that are open and customers can win Bridgetown Bucks certificates to be used at local businesses. These are provided by the BACC to encourage spending in our community. The Santa Bus will also be available and provided by Carleton Road Industries. The Santa Claus parade will be on Saturday Nov. 30/13 beginning at Jubilee Park at 1:00 pm and loot bags will be handed to kids at the Home Hardware parking lot. Loot bags provided by ValuFoods and Pharmasave and the girls at the Credit Union have filled these. Thanks to all for their support.

CiderFest Update- A meeting was held on Nov. 18/13 by the committee as a presentation to attract new volunteers for this event. There were very good comments and ideas presented. The current committee has been together for five years and are looking for steady volunteers to take over when they step down.

Finance – No finance report as Gary was absent.

Membership – Membership is up slightly, we have gained a couple new members. Maybe making a call to all businesses in the area in the New Year and advertising the purpose of the BACC may attract more.

From The Town- Mayor Hurlburt advised that Valley Waste is looking at a possible 20% increase in rates for the 2014-2015 budget, should have final figure by end of January 2014.

There is a shift in activity in Bridgetown with new businesses opening on Queen St., the Trojan Center is expanding its facility and it would be a good idea to approach the owners to give a presentation.

Police Advisors Board meeting will be held in Lawrencetown next week with discussions on having a criminal analyst in the County.

The Regional Library system has a 3D printer and demos are being offered at the Library Capsite location.

Chamber Group Plan Insurance- Jenny Hardy presented information on the new policy being implemented for Chambers versus current Boards of Trade policies, with pros and cons discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am

Next Meeting Dec. 19, 2013