

**BRIDGETOWN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MINUTES OF MEETING SEPTEMBER 8, 2011**

Attendance: Andy Kerr, Heather Marshall, Kirk Lycett, Gerry Bezanson, Mayor Bob Fowler, Neil Cook, Gary Olsvik, Clark Morris, Tom Rice, Jason Rice, Jennifer Poole, Tim Habinski, Dan Forbes

Meeting called to order at 8:04 am by Chair Andy Kerr with a welcome to all in attendance.

Minutes from the June 30, 2011 meeting were presented. Motion by Kirk to accept minutes as amended, 2nd by Tim, m/c.

Business Arising

The 50/50 draw being organized by ValuFoods is not yet ready to proceed as there are still some administration requirements to be sorted out.

The new Cool Water Café opened today.

A welcome to our new directors, Neil Cook, Cathy Graves, and Jason Rice.

Correspondence

The BACC received a thank you note from Mary Steele upon receiving her plaque for her many years of business contribution to our community.

Reports

Finance- The BACC operating account is presently at \$13,486.91

Holiday Draw - \$22,716.80

Good Samaritan - \$35.04

Beautification Acct. - \$50

Ciderfest- Gary advised the BACC has received a grant in the amount of \$3500 from the Town. Everything is in place for the festival including the weather. There has been a great response from the community on the Ciderfest booklets being distributed early. Thirty-two vendors have signed up for the Farmers Market.

To date we have received two-thirds of the revenue from the ads placed in the booklet.

Holiday Draw- is at a break-even point with the five draws that have taken place to date. A decision will be made this fall regarding the future of the draw.

Motion by Gary to accept these reports as submitted, 2nd by Kirk, m/c

Tourism

The VIC is now on reduced hours.

Visitor reports show an increase in June of 2.9%, July down by 2.2% and August down by 12%. Unfortunately construction at the Park along with weather and reduced hours have affected visitor numbers.

The VIC was opened Wednesday thru Saturday for the Wharf Rat Rally and will be open for Ciderfest, closing the first week of October.

Revitalisation

The Salvation Army Store has been chosen by ADEDA as the recipient of a store front makeover.

Steve Raftery advises revitalisation of the property adjoining Town Hall has been put on hold for now, as he is working to secure the remainder of grants needed to complete the project.

The summer concerts were well received at Jubilee Park and the movies were well attended at the Pool. Brian Rice and his crew are working hard on the Park entrance, and there are other projects being considered.

Town of Bridgetown

Mayor Fowler advised the forensic audit should be completed by the end of October and that council is working closely with the auditors to have an accurate number to set the new tax rate. The Town has also applied to the government to write off the current deficit of approximately \$60,000 over a five year period. Mayor Fowler stated the present council may be in place until elections in 2012. There has been a motion passed by council to reduce the number of councillors to four, plus the Mayor. There is still a considerable amount of uncollected revenue.

Wind Farm Development

An overview of information from past meetings held regarding the Wind Farm Development project was presented by Tom Rice and Jennifer Poole. They advised Sprott Power is working to get permits renewed as these are being held by by-law issues concerning distance from habitable buildings.

There will be a public meeting on the Wind Farm at COGS campus, Lawrencetown, September 27, 2011

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 am, next meeting October 20, 2011