

**BRIDGETOWN AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
GENERAL MEETING JANUARY 21, 2016**

Attendance: Kirk Lycett, Gerry Bezanson, Gary Olsvik, Clark, Mike Gushue, Anne Crossman, Chair Jen D'Aubin, Jason Rice, Paul Blake, Kathy Howland, Angela (library).

Minutes from December 2015 were presented. Motion by Anne, 2nd by Kirk to accept minutes with correction noted by Gary, m/c.

Business Arising:

Nancy Price has had a meeting with Deb Ryan regarding the transition money available. No decision has been made to date as to how the money will be used, and if there is any input from members they should attend the next meeting.

Meet the County;

Although this was a very informative meeting, the County was represented much better than our business community. Clark suggested maybe getting information regarding events such as this out at least two weeks in advance.

Santa Suit will be added to the list of purchases with transition money.

The Trojan Center is still waiting on direction from the Province regarding refugee lodging.

There has been no action taken on the Chase the Ace lottery.

Will look at having an open meeting regarding Moonlight Madness to get ideas from merchants as to how to improve this event.

Reports:

Finance- Current balance is \$14,443.
Payables at \$360.00 (Bridgetown Bucks)

Ciderfest:

Committee has met several times and are looking at options to revamp the Festival, may downgrade to three days, more details to follow. Next meeting is in February, no date set yet.

Tourism:

The grant application process is now in full swing. Kirk will submit applications for two positions.

New Business:

The BACC will have a change of location for monthly meetings as there are some merchants who will not attend at the Pub. Motion by Gary, 2nd by Kirk to move meeting back to Town Hall when board room is available. m/c

Friends of the Library are looking for support to take over the empty space previously occupied by the Eggplant Café.

Discussion and questions followed . There has been only one other application besides the Library to take over this space. The other applicant withdrew due to the amount of renovations required. The library has the funds to carry this out and feels it would be beneficial to local businesses to have the library take over this space as people combine library visits with shopping locally. The space could also be converted to a meeting room space. There are presently 1000 active users of the library and the current space is limited. Kathy asked if the school library could be combined with the local library and discussion followed regarding the differences between public and school libraries, primarily the collection of books required for each.

Anne suggested the library could make a presentation to the BACC and its members regarding their position on this. This meeting will be on February 4, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Pullman Room at the Pub.

Mapping:

Anne is working on this project to which will provide the Chamber with mapping of all businesses in area. Membership businesses should be listed on the map. Andy is currently working on this. Anne is working on Google maps to fix errors. Jason suggested also having links to paid members.

CARP has requested a letter of support from the BACC regarding a floating dock at Jubilee Park. Anne moved this support be given, 2nd by Gary, m/c.

The BACC has received the Directors and Officers Insurance policy from MacDonald Chisholm at a cost of \$550. Motion by Gary, 2nd by Jason to pay this premium, m/c.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM

Next meeting February 28, 2016