

Attendees

Debbie Palichuk -Shanes IDA Pharmacy

Noel Simpson - Noels Place

George Nylan -Treasurer

Mark Watson

Valerie Whitelaw

Ross Whitelaw

Hank Holowaychuk

Stephanie Popel

Michelle Wright

Noel starts the meeting at 702pm

1 - Approval of the Agenda - Ross approves the agenda.

2 - Acknowledge Guests and New Members - No guests or new members, only current Chamber members

3-Financial statement - George advises us that we have \$10413.00 in the our new Alberta Treasury Branch bank account. After examining the expense report, Noel wants an expense report on every project we are involved in, like the parade and Christmas light up. Michelle suggests that George put in a date beside the entry, because some of the income was from 2018. Stephanie lets George know that is a column in the Sage accounting system where you can add in miscellaneous information and it wont effect your income reports etc. George will update his reports. CIBC is closed, but George made a mistake in calculating funds, so there is a \$45 dollar charge that George will pay the Chamber. There is \$12.60 still left in the CIBC account so Noel and Debbie will go tomorrow and hopefully they can close the account without any motion to close. They will advise at the next meeting.

4-Minutes from the last meeting - No corrections or additions, minutes look good.

5-Business arising from minutes - No new Business

6-Coupon book proposal - Michelle is working with the RCDC and the County to put together a coupon book to give out when visitors come to our Region. Hockey tournaments for example. Currently, they give out a swag bag, but she wants to include something from each business in Town if possible. Everyone thought it was a great idea and Michelle will keep working on it.

7-Passport-example will be passed around- Michelle brought in a template which we want to use for our Passport to Smoky Lake campaign running from November 1st to 30th. The example was approved, so Michelle, Renee and Debbie will meet tomorrow and finalize everything, because we need to get the Business names on it who want to participate and the passports out to the Businesses.

8-Need a motion to pay the Town for coins turned in (30 were turned in as of the last meeting- \$150) and then continue to pay as they are turned in. Noel sold coins at the Pumpkin Fair. Anything we sell, we don't want the Town to have to pay for them if someone redeems them at a Business. 270 left out of 750. We would pay the Town anything that comes back to them after September 1st. Noel was thinking of doing a hidden prize for the coins at the Christmas Light up if possible which will help promote the Chamber. Hank says don't keep them after 2019, try and get rid of them all this year. Plus we need to change the design for 2020 just to make them different, so people will want to collect them. Debbie will sell them at Shanes IDA Pharmacy as a commemorative coin. Michelle makes the motion any coins turned into the Town after September 1st, the Chamber will pay the Town back. Val seconds. Motion carried.

9-Business showcase - introduction of Todd Hirsch - He will be speaking at the National hall this Thursday, October 24th at 7pm. There will be a business showcase from 430pm to 630pm for the Chamber Businesses only. There are posters up around town. This event is open to the public. Noel will prepare some healthy snacks and buy donuts from the Bakery. Noel will introduce and thank Todd for coming. Michelle bought Todd a gift to make up a basket with various Town items from the local businesses.

10- Ev Chargers - Michelle talks about the Ev chargers and that she has found out the cost is from \$1700 to \$2500 dollars for a quick charge charger. We need to find a business who will install one. No electric vehicles in our community currently. Noel suggests we make a proposal to show to every business in town to see who is interested. Michelle will do packages for the businesses. Noel asks if the Chamber would commit to 1 charger, Noels asks Hank if the town would install it? Hank says he cant answer on behalf of the council. Michelle lets us know that many of the electrical companies are offering incentives for Towns to install them. She will take it back to the RCDC and see where things are going with it. If we had one installed, it would bring more business to our Town. We have to look at where and who would pay the power bill going forward as well.

11- Light up to Finalize - Renee will do the gingerbread cookies. Chamber will send out the Silent Auction letters and the Kinettes will organize the auction on November 29th. Noel has talked to the Lions club about doing the hot dogs and hot chocolate. Juanita from the fire department will light the fireworks. Chamber will pay the complex a 100 dollars for letting us have the location for free. Noel was just concerned about clean up and paying Punky just in case she has more work to do then usual. Noel will also check and see if Cheryl will be open in the concession stand that night, because we are giving free hot dogs and hot chocolate. Debbie will buy the face paints, tattoos etc and those will be donated by Shanes IDA Pharmacy. The upstairs at the complex will be where the wine and cheese is for the silent auction, Noel will check with Sharon to see if shes going to sponsor that this year. Len Hrehorets will do hay rides. What date do we put an ad in the Signal? Redwater review is free. Noel will talk to Dick at HAK about music and also to ask about some high school students to help out. We will donate \$200 dollars to HAK for the volunteers. Dave is going to be Santa and he will pick up his Santa suit from Debbie at Shanes IDA Pharmacy. Noel is looking for a trailer for Clive Palichuk to pull alongside the horses on light up night.

12- Bathrooms on hwy 28 and 36. Hank talks about how the 2 bathrooms along the highway have been shut down. He talked to Paula with the Transportation board and she said it costs minimum 100,000 per year to keep these washrooms open. She said they need to trim some money, trying to promote tourism, because right now there are no washrooms for the truckers. Hank said its not fair to the truckers or anyone driving along the highways needing a rest. Hopefully, something can be done. Alberta Transportation, Dean Letke, Hwy 28 still is a majority priority and needs some upgrades. Town will write a letter and the Chamber will as well.

13 - Town Update - Hank made a motion to spend 40,000 to improve or increase our Wi-Fi capacity in Town. Since this tentative motion was made, lots of challenges and questions have been popping up, good and bad. Its in the process, we have to be competitive against the big giants like Telus. He will update us at the next meeting.

4j Mechanical is upgrading the old carwash and its looking fantastic.

Smoky Lake Collision is completing phase 2, which is a significant investment for our Town.

Hank commented that our current bylaws do not meet the needs of the current residents. The Town is going to revisit our bylaws. Bar V Nook is no longer a connecting care facility, they are going to hire a CAO 5 days a week. Bonnie Gatze is our current CAO, but there has been interviews scheduled in the next few weeks.

Hank was on a tour of the Rivercree a few weeks ago. A beautiful facility, proactive, very good hosts, lots of additions and improvements over the years. He talked with the Chief from Saddle Lake to join the next municipality meeting.

He had a meeting with Buffalo Lake to push for communication from Buffalo Lake to Lac La Biche.

Dawn Marie Marchand is an indeginous artist who has moved to Smoky Lake. She paints 6x6 indeginous art. A very prestigious lady and an important part of advocacy, and women in art. A very important addition to our Town.

Adam added the electronic board in front of the Town.

14 - Electric sign - Ross talks about our electric sign. Team viewer has slowed the service down, because they think we are making a profit which we are not. The Town is paying for the power. If the sign slows down all the time, Ross will look at another company if he has too. The little computer is getting old, factory software, but it is equipped with Windows 10. Ross will bring it back to the Chamber if any more issues arise.

15-Pumpkin update - Hank thanked all the workers and volunteers for all their hard work that day. CBC media clips, Hank did an interview on 630 Ched. Great weekend!! The Pumpkin growers are looking at changing things and improving things, but lots of challenges. Noel said they had a great turnout, but no numbers yet. The food court had no one until 11am, scarce, then the line ups started after 12pm. Very busy at 2pm and steady until 5pm. They weren't sure if it was a weather thing or a cost thing, because the entrance fee had increased. Michelle said the Kinettes sold 500 pancakes at their breakfast. They could have started earlier and gone longer. They took postal codes and 90% of the people she talked too were first timers. 1% of the people visiting the RCDC booth were asking about housing, lake lots, businesses and what the community had to offer.

Future agenda - Plywood sign by the post office replace it with the old school sign. Michelle and Debbie also asked Hank about giving businesses some room outside to have a few tables where people could eat and relax. He said the streets have to be a certain size.

16-Next meeting - November 18th - Esso - Great Bear Café 6pm

17-Meeting adjourned at 908pm by Michelle.