



Smoky Lake Chamber of Commerce  
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January 18, 2021

7pm at Noels Place

Noel Simpson - President

Michelle Wright - Vice President

Stephanie Popel - Treasurer

Debbie Palichuk - Secretary

Brian Jones - Esso, Smoky Lake Inn, Gofer Liquor

1) 705pm Noel calls the meeting to order. Brian approves the agenda.

2) Stephanie explains the financial report. She will email all the Members a new invoice for 2021 Memberships. Please see financial report attached. Debbie approves the Financial report as read.

3) No Business arising from the minutes from November 9th, 2020 meeting.

4a) AGM - Michelle will ask Penny Fox and Jodi to join in our Zoom meeting and do a presentation. Meeting has been scheduled for February 22, 2021. Michelle will send a link later for Members to join the meeting. Please see attached letter with information about the AGM meeting.

4b) Brian called our MLA Glenn Van Dijken about trying to get assistance for Businesses in Town with Covid still in effect. He talked about the rising costs of insurance and asked how the Government can help with this. The Chamber should write a letter to the Government explaining our Business concerns. Things wont happen with only one Business asking the questions. 60% of all small businesses will fail with the help of Community Futures. Low interest loans for small Businesses to improve their buildings. Glenn explained that the Government isn't in the business of loaning money they aren't a bank. Brian asked about AFSC to see if they would loan money to small businesses. Glenn said Brian would have to go through a group like the Chamber in order to be heard, but we would have to get a few Chambers not only Smoky Lake to write letters. Michelle talks about Red Tape reduction in trying to reduce high interest rates and being able to borrow from one company to another. Currently Businesses are unable to do that.

4c) Noel wants to buy the Town public works employees lunch for all of their great work they have done for everyone all year. There are 4 employees, Billy, the Foreman is doing an exceptional job. Michelle makes the motion to buy lunch from the Smoky Lake Inn for \$100. Noel will contact Billy directly.

4d) Noel talks about doing a letter to the MLA. Michelle will do up a questionnaire for all the Businesses to fill out to see what concerns they have with Covid, building improvements, loans, grants, etc.

4e) Family Day - Still the same Covid restrictions, we cant do any events yet. At the AGM, we will ask if anyone has heard of a good safe activity that we can do.

5) Michelle talks about the Digital Marketplace. Goal is to get Businesses online. Northeast Community Futures will help businesses get on the Marketplace. Example - online ordering. Not sure of the cost yet, still waiting to see if we can apply for a grant.

Roundtable and meeting is adjourned at 850pm.