



Chamber of Commerce Meeting
June 27, Agenda 7:00pm (Networking starts at 6:00 pm)
Smoky Lake Golf Club

- 1) Amend/Approve Agenda - Noel calls the meeting to order at 7:06pm. A few amendments to the agenda. Noel wants a computer course, added in 8c. Hank a quick update on the Rodeo, added in 5b. Val approves the agenda. In attendance, Debbie Palichuk – Shane’s IDA pharmacy, Ross and Val Whitelaw – MRW computer and Val’s bookkeeping, Jody Foulds – Community Futures, Katilynn Makowichuk – Made by K and A, Del Huculak – Centex/Madis, Hank Holowaychuk – Smoky Lake Stampede, Crystal Letwin – Town of Smoky Lake, Michelle Wright – Pappys/RCDC, Melissa Broadbent – Digital Service Squad Community Futures, Noel Simpson – Noel's Place, Smoky Lake Golf Course
- 2) Financials
 - a. May 31 2022 Financials - Stephanie is unable to physically attend, so we called her. Memberships are consistent, grant money coming in as well. \$22317.52 is our bank balance as of May 2022. A healthy bank account. She is waiting to complete our Annual return. Del made the motion to approve the financial statement as read.
- 3) Minutes April 12, 2022 for approval- Ross approves the minutes.
- 4) Business Arising from Minutes – No business arising from the minutes.
- 5) Old Business
 - a. Chamber Intern program update – Alyson Makowichuk resignation, next steps including Digital Service Squad access – Melissa Broadbent joins us from the Digital service squad. She is here to help businesses with their websites, Facebook pages, even our digital sign. Free for the Businesses. Melissa cannot help with non-profits, so Jody will be talking about this at their upcoming meetings with Community Futures. We have to contact Community Futures to get Melissa to come and help us. Dep.businesslink.ca is the sign up link. She also gave us her email which is mel.digitalss@cfllb.com
 - b. Parade Planning – who needs to do what, by when – Parade is July 30th at 11am. Theme this year is Ukrainian Settlement in Alberta for 130 years. Anything Ukrainian on your floats. Debbie will write a letter to the Town informing them of the date, closing the streets and asking about the \$5 gifts for Float participants. As for the ribbons, Katilynn will look into either doing the ribbons or finding a business that can. Debbie makes the motion to buy the ribbons for no more than \$500 dollars. We will have 1st, 2nd and a Grand prize for all the categories. We will ask Joan what categories we had 3 years ago. We need judges, gifts, sponsors and a Parade marshall. Del suggests we encourage the

crowd who views the parade to dress in Ukrainian clothing. Michelle has a twinning partner Kosiv where money collected for the Ukraine goes directly to Kosiv via direct deposit. Katilynn will give out the Ukraine ribbons at the Rodeo grounds while collecting money as well if people want to donate. As for a larger donation and tax receipts, that would have to be done with a different organization. Michelle is going to ask the Ukrainian families who have come to Smoky Lake to be the parade judges. Debbie asked Renee to be the sponsor collector, but Renee declined. Michelle will canvas to all the Businesses for sponsors for the 1st prize of \$75 dollars and 2nd prize of \$50 dollars. That money will be spent with gift certificates from all the Businesses on the Chamber. Hank updates us on the Rodeo club progress. The posters are currently being made. He talks about all the young families with horses. Family fun day under the Smoky Lake Riding club Facebook page. Alberta Barrel Racing association this Friday. Noel wants a list of all the Rodeo events to be handed out at the Golf course. Del wants the parade participants to be recognized somehow and he wants us to invite other communities to join in. Michelle explains that everyone gets a \$5 dollar voucher to be used in Smoky Lake at any of the Businesses.

6) New Business

- a. Chamber Sign at Centex – correspondence from Town (attached 2 documents) - Katilynn talks about how her and her sister joined the Chamber and what they were told and not told. How some Businesses who are not members have pictures for free on our Chamber digital sign. No welcome package and nothing to let her know what the Chamber does when she joined. She didn't know about the meeting or get an email. She only knew, because she had talked to Michelle earlier in the day. Noel talks about limited resources and limited time not as that should be an excuse. Noel thanks Katilynn for letting the Chamber know. Katilynn proposes doing a virtual Chamber welcome package. Congratulations on joining and so forth. Michelle wants to work on a better way of communicating going forward. Debbie mentions when Noel and Michelle did their walk about the Town to members and non-members they had with them the benefits and a pamphlet for the Chamber. They will be doing their walk about again in September. We need a new system that will manage new and old members, keep everyone alert with activities and meetings, check our email addresses, let the other Churches and non-profit groups for example know that they can advertise on our electric sign. As for the Town letter, Del suggests do we get a new sign altogether or just refabricate it with a new structure. Katilynn will look into getting a whole new concept all together. She will get some quotes on costs for all of these options. We let Crystal from the Town who was in attendance at our meeting, that we are working on a project to get it fixed. Crystal will let the Town know. Del has done some repairs now, so that it looks better. Hank mentions the signs that are falling off or the ones you cant even read the writing. Katilynn makes a motion to have a committee looking at getting a new sign or fixing the current one. Noel and Katilynn will be on that committee. Michelle will

address making it safe and clean. Del and Michelle will contact Billy at the Town to work on that project. Ross talks about the specifications on the digital sign, the simpler the wording or pictures are the clearer the picture comes through. We all talked about digital only and getting rid of the physical signs. We will have the sign cleaned up and safe by the July long weekend for the Rodeo. Katilynn makes the motion that the Chamber will work with Elevate wellness. Debbie seconds. Michelle said to ignore the request for the video camera at the sign for now. Mel had mentioned this from Town council. They are still looking into the logistics for that.

- b. 2022 Projects/Events – Objective to Drive business to our Members
 - o Street Fair Idea – Deb P – Debbie talks about doing a street fair in Smoky Lake. Closing down the street in front of Shanes IDA, having the fair from 5pm to 7pm. Other cities and towns do farmers markets or flea markets at night, so why not us? Katilynn and Debbie will organize the street fair, asking the Town to close down the street, looking into vendors that come from the Farmers market on Saturdays, having a local band play music in the Pumpkin park. We hope to have 1 a month in the summer, but for this year we will try a Thursday night in mid August. Very exciting!!

7) Delegations:

8) Other

- a. Reminder to engage on Facebook with Chamber - @SmokyLakeChamber
- b. 2022 Memberships can be submitted by mail to Box 635 Smoky Lake or dropped off at Pappy's. Noel and Michelle will visit businesses in late September.
- c. Course on computers – Noel struggles everyday with computers. Can we offer a computer course through the Chamber? Michelle and Jody will look into it. They are thinking something similar to the Community learning council that is offering a computer course currently at the Seniors drop in centre.
- d. Metis crossing – Hank discusses the huge response to the Metis crossing. How they are reaching out to the community, bringing visitors from all over the province and helping grow our region. Hank thinks that Noel should Thank the Metis crossing. Michelle makes the motion to give flowers for \$150 dollars to the Metis crossing as a Thank you for everything they are doing. Debbie seconds. Hank also mentions how many compliments he gets for how clean our Town is. Debbie comments that is mainly due to Hank!!

No roundtable due to the meeting going a bit long. Noel thanks everyone for coming. Val motions to adjourn the meeting at 845pm.