

**Open Meeting**

Friday, January 8th, 2016 8:00am at The Rockwood Motor Inn

Attendance: Adam Smolinski, Marie Taplin, Wilma Ireland, Bev Galbraith, Stephanie Duncan, Lockie McLean, Shelly Courtney, Graham Stammer, Ron.

1. Agenda Approved. Welcome Shelly, a new member from Brake Family Auto Sales & Service.
2. Financial Report. See attached budget report. Budget is an Estimate. Income is down because fundraising down. Expenses are down as a result. Not much website maintenance so the cost is down. Most numbers are the same except for the events committee. Telephone has to be disconnected next month Ron Motion to accept the budget reportStephanie second. All in favour. The Lottery needs people. Special meeting to discuss it. Possibility to win a thousand dollars a week for a year. The purpose is to use as a fundraiser and help organizations in our community. Cost will be $50 a ticket. Will be offered to chamber members first. Money allocated to community events. From the chamber will be noted by a plaque etc. We could do it every three or four years. What if we don't sell all the tickets?  Have to figure out our break even point. If slow, possibly offer two for three at that point. Good idea. Name of committee? Marie, Shelly, and Ron will form the committee. How much competition is there in town for selling tickets?  Its a new idea and will catch on. Ron to organize it. And hold a special meeting in February.
3. Old business. Website. We are paying $30 a month for the management of it by Scott from Tiny Giant. Graham talked to him. We should move the video from the front page to another page and then replace with three rotating photos, similar to other websites. First Data has been added to our site. Chambers receive revenue from them if our members use them. Chamber Insurance has also been added. Work with Stephanie to get photos of our members for the second page. We should be posting events ahead to market them. Any other suggestions for changes?   If so, please send Graham an email. One hour a month is paid for updates to the website company and we will have Tiny Giant do the ipdates. We tried doing it ourselves, but didn’t manage to work out well as we are all busy with own businesses and if we already pay someone we should allow them to do it. Minutes may be posted within a week or two. Improve the three photos with seasonal views of the town.

4. The Strategy meeting yielded four or five ideas to get done. The Sign.

 Seven months have passed now. We need the town to set a date to

 Look at this further. Graham said he would send

 the Mayor a note to remind him. Lockie stated that they had a meeting in November

 and talked about it but no decision was made.  A Vision meeting was

 held. Sidewalks and Walking trails to be done. Billboard on the highway

 advertising our town. Taxes kept down. Sign quotes pulled out from

 previous years and they are alot of money No decision was made. A

 new CAO position will advertised in the paper.

 Three quotes are needed going forward for purchasing items by the

 Town. Next year no road construction is happening so the town can

 take a better look at the proposals then.

 Graham mentioned that the sign is an extra way of communicating

 about events as if you miss it in the paper, hopefully you can see it

 on the sign. To get the paperwork started for a sign can be a

 painful process Stephanie said.

 We need to go to highways with the idea. Graham thought it could go

 where the monument park and ride is. MIT passed a law about

 certifying signs. Lockie also mentioned that there will be a new park

 sign coming named after a resident but could not say who at this point.

5. Oaths were done by the Mayor. We were sworn in as a

 group. A Group photo was done

6. Events Committee. Adam Jen and Steph met. Nixed the bonspiel. Paint

 night has brought up questions. Will it make money? Adam will do the

 social media event in June at the Youth for Christ hall.  Notify the com

 munity not just by email. Each of us should call a group of businesses.

 In April we will be hosting a night at McLeod House.

 Games for mingling. Need more than

 twenty people to make it a go. Our summertime event, Bar-b-q Wars

 has Food Handler license issues. To be held in Quarry Park.

 Graham asked for dates?

 The Mb Chamber has done their 2016 calendar already. No detail

 needed. We may push paint night ahead a bit. Another meeting will be held in the next few weeks. We will need some extra volunteers for

 some events.

7. Bev, Ron, Graham and Steph met to coordinate memberships.  People

 always ask what are you doing for me. The list is not correct. Emails are

 not all getting out. When do renewals go out?  January. Bev and Ron

 will get it done by the 15th. We need emails on renewals and websites.

 The fees are the same. Minutes will be put onto the website by

 Graham. Deadline for memberships is March 1st. Bev to call missing

 ones in March. Bev notified the chamber of her moving in the Spring.

 Addresses need updating. Regular meeting better in the am or

 lunches?  We are booked to February so far.

 Events are organized by date.

 We should set up meetings for the year. Think we should take a month off in the summer.

8. Resolution system is coming up. Do we have resolutions!  We have not

 sent in many lately. Perhaps we need a committee. Graham and two

 others. We used to have more people attend our regular meetings that

 had business ideas about resolutions. A lot of chambers don't

 bother though. Marie stated it is more important to attend the AGM for

 the Manitoba Chamber. Its held in May this year. If you

 have a resolution you have to be there. Past resolution example: pair back the pst. The items to talk about are provincial concerns. Email members to see if there are any suggestions to go in. Many don't attend but they have ideas. Graham will send Bev an email to forward. Concerns about Healthcare, roads etc.

9. MB Youth Job Center- We had an office space at the HAC last year. Not this year. The CEO of the town has offered us a spot at the town office for

 this year. Workers get cell phones so no land line is needed. This

 is an important service for our community. Some work is needed by our volunteers in setting this up. We are responsible for hiring the manager. We get a list from the government of names. Then narrow it down to three and interview them. A decision paper is filled out and sent back. The new

manager goes into Winnipeg in May for training. They will need some guidance. The Government pays them. Marie and Steph to do this. The Odd Job Squad is a great program

10. We received a letter from Gail about the Interlake Tourism Membership. $141.75. They help to promote the Interlake. Should we become a

 member? Steph motioned to remit this. Marie second, all in favor.

11. Photos for the website. A Youth photo class at the high school could

 take this on. Honorarium for class. Submit for website. Each member

 gets onto the site. Resolves, “What we do for your membership”. Many

 businesses don't have websites. Under photo put a website if they have

 one. Plan. Document who it is in photo. Design a page to fill in. Contact

 phone numbers supplied. Steph to do this. Contact a Teacher describing what we want. A Computer class? Powerpoint presentation. Allocate a

 scholarship or give to the class. $250.00? Steph motioned that we allo

 cate $250 to the collegiate to take photos etc. Second by Marie, all in

 favor.

Adjourned 9:22