

Manitoulin Chamber of Commerce 2008 Annual General Meeting

5:00 p.m. Cocktails
 Silent Auction Viewing and Bidding

6:00 p.m. Welcome and Introduction to the Manitoulin Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting at Abby's Restaurant by Tom Charbonneau, Coordinator for the Manitoulin Chamber of Commerce. Brief overview of the evening activities was presented by the Coordinator who would be the Master of Ceremonies for the Evening. Tom highlighted some of the past year successes such as the merger with the Manitoulin Branding Association and the new Chamber of Commerce website. The past year has also brought an increase in membership to the chamber. The chamber has been working on increased media attention for island businesses through radio and newspaper campaigns and the creation of Branding Association Binder and the use of a Chamber of Commerce Newsletter. The evening will feature nominations and elections to the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce. As well there will be a Silent Auction with donations from Island Businesses and proceeds going to the Chamber of Commerce.

Coordinator introduced the Directors that were present: Owen Legge, Nancy Leeson, Marg Jones, Claude Proulx, Ray Desmarais and Karyn Chandler. Dorothy Gordon sent her regrets.

6:15 p.m. Dinner – Buffet by Abby's Restaurant

7:00 p.m. Dessert & Coffee by Abby's Restaurant

Branding Association-Kathy Antonio-successes of the Branding Association over the past year and plans for the future. Encouraged all organizations to work together. We have something to be proud of and we need to promote what we have. We have proven that we can succeed when we work together and we must continue to do so in the future.

Manitoulin Living presentation - Film Project by Patrick Kiley and overview of work to be done and where Manitoulin Living is heading. Encouraged all Manitoulin business oriented organizations to work together for the common good.

Stan Ferguson spoke on the North Channel Marine Tourism Association and plans for the future and interest in working with the Chamber of Commerce to pool resources and need for the NCMTA to promote land based attractions that would also encourage tourism for his business associates.

Max Burt spoke on importance of contributions by all island businesses to support one another and about maintaining the support of local businesses and residents for year round prosperity.

8:15 p.m. Silent Auction Ends-bid sheets retrieved by the coordinator at this time
President's Address-Owen Legge addressed the meeting
By-Law Changes – Coordinator provide details and ask for vote to reduce the number of directors from 16 to 12 directors. Motion was made at Regular General Meeting of the Chamber and vote was required by the Board. Motion to reduce the number of Directors to 12 was approved unanimously.
Election of Board Members-Coordinator call for the nomination of Director to the Manitoulin Chamber of Commerce from the floor and indicated there were 6 positions to fill.

Marg Jones was nominated by Rick McCutcheon and seconded by Jan McQuay.

Meredith Noble was nominated by Kathy Antonio and seconded by John Foster.

Bob Taylor was nominated by Owen Legge and seconded by Marg Jones.

Chuc Willson was nominated by Claude Proulx and Seconded by Jan McQuay.

Max Burt was nominated by Karyn Chandler and seconded by Kathy Antonio.

There were no further nominations to the board. Coordinator received approval for each nominee to be appointed to the board and there were no objections to any person that was nominated to sit on the board. All nominees are appointed for a two year term with one vacancy remaining on the Board of Directors.

Financial Report – presented by Marg Jones on behalf of Acting Treasurer Dorothy Gordon. Members were invited to review the financial data and forward questions to Mrs Gordon. Dorothy would be preparing the yearend report in the coming days and making updates as required.

9:00 p.m. Silent Auction Winners- Winners of the 22 Silent Auction Items were announced and payment and item pickup could be made after the Closing Comments.

Closing Comments were made by the Coordinator. All were thanked for attending. Special appreciation to the Businesses that donated Silent Auction items and Door Prize give a ways. Businesses were encouraged to continue support of the Chamber and renew membership fees and support for the Manitoulin Chamber of Commerce.