

Manitoulin Chamber of Commerce
Meeting Minutes - Approved
Tuesday May 20, 2008
9:30 am

Regular Board Meeting

Facilitator: Tom Charbonneau - Coordinator

Call to Order: President Legge called the meeting to order at 9:45am.

Roll Call: Directors: Owen Legge, Nancy Leeson, Marg Jones, Claude Proulx, Ray Desmarais, Karyn Chandler, Glenn Black. Staff: Tom Charbonneau and Guest: John Foster.

Motion 1-5-20-08 to accept minutes of April 21st, 2008 Regular Board Meeting with changes as requested by Karyn Chandler was made by Marg Jones and seconded by Ray Desmarais. Motion Carried.

Executive Reports:

1. President. Owen Legge reported that Blue Bird Charters was awaiting approval for unscheduled flights to Manitoulin Island. Owen advised that Carol Sheppard indicated the desire to have the Chamber of Commerce and the Manitoulin Tourism Association work together to have one booklet and map produced for the use of both groups and that it should be a joint project for the common good. Dorothy Gordon sends her regrets for this meeting as she is unavailable.
2. Vice President. Nancy Leeson is working on a letter regarding the condition of Highway 6 to the proper authorities
3. Secretary. Nothing to report
4. Treasurer/Bookkeeper. Glenn Black provided a description of the Quick Books Program to the Board and indicated how the program was set up on the laptop computer.
5. Coordinator. Tom Charbonneau reported that the website is up and running and he is educating users. There will be some minor changes/corrections to make. Please encourage members to activate their respective pages. If passwords and user names have not been received contact the coordinator. Will be trying to schedule training for members in the near future. We have 138 members as of May 15th, 2008. Coordinator has received verbal confirmation of funding for Ambassador Coordinator and student. Branding pamphlets have arrived and inserts are expected very soon. Branding Books are being produced for circulation to branding members and tourism hotspots. The Coordinator is attempting to draft price list for webpage advertising and newsletter advertising. There are a number of items that require signatures of our president and or directors.

Committee Reports

1. Branding Associate Committee. Karyn Chandler requested that a motion be made to approve the purchase of ad space in the Summer Getaway Insert for the Branding Association at a cost of \$99 plus GST. Motion 2-5-20-08 was made to this effect by Marg Jones and seconded by Nancy Leeson. Motion Carried. Karyn requested the adoption of an interim policy by the Chamber that there be no further verbal reports of events attended by members that requested chamber funds and that the interim policy be followed until all details were confirmed. Motion 3-5-20-08 was made to this effect by Claude Proulx and seconded by Ray Desmarais, Motion Carried
2. Marketing and Promotion. Owen and Tom attended a meeting with the Municipality of Central Manitoulin and received permission to install a free standing sign at the new Welcome Center located in Mindemoya. Motion 3-5-20-08 was made by Ray Desmarais and seconded by Karyn Chandler that \$4000 be set aside from the merger budget to allow for the purchase of this sign. Motion Carried.
3. Public Relations

4. Administration. Marg Jones advised that applications had been received for the positions of Ambassador and Ambassador Coordinator. Motion 4-5-20-08 was made by Nancy Leeson and seconded by Karyn Chandler that Owen Legge, Marg Jones and Tom Charbonneau fill the positions indicated subject to funding approval. Motion Carried.
5. Research and Development. Owen Legge indicated that the Blue Bird Charters project was in progress.
6. Cooperative Marketing/Ambassador Program/Economic Impact Study. Item covered under # 4, Administration.

Business:

1. Local Business Development. Nothing to report.
2. Quick Books Accounting System. Glenn Black indicated that the accounting system was ready to go.
2. Newsletter Editorial Content. Glenn Black indicated that Dave Ham was interested in an editorial.
3. Letters to the Editor by Chamber on Manitoulin Issues. Glenn Black would be submitting an editorial to the Expositor for consideration.

Correspondence: Review of items by Coordinator.

New Business:

1. Is the Manitoulin Community Food Network a nonprofit organization for purpose of chamber membership? Motion 5-5-20-08 was made by Karyn Chandler and seconded by Nancy Leeson that based on the letter submitted to the board by Vincente Belenson for the MCFN that they be granted nonprofit status with the Manitoulin Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of membership with the Chamber. Motion Carried.
2. Letter to Minister of Natural Resources re: Cormorants. The coordinator is to draft a letter to the Minister of Natural Resources indicating the Chamber Support for a cull of cormorants as their high population is believed to be causing decreased fishing opportunities and this is reducing business opportunities. Motion 6-5-20-08 to this effect made by Ray Desmarais and seconded by Nancy Leeson. Motion Carried.
3. Letter from Carol Sheppard. Motion 7-5-20-08 made by Claude Proulx and seconded by Marg Jones to forward this letter to Joyce Foster so that Joyce may encourage the Manitoulin Tourism Association and Chamber of Commerce to work on the project together and for the common good.
4. Annual General Meeting. Karyn Chandler volunteered to chair the organizing committee for the 2008 Annual General Meeting.

In Camera Items: Not requested.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 16th, 2008.

Adjournment at 11:55am