

Springhill & Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes

February 3, 2010

Lamp Cabin Restaurant

In attendance: President Frank Likely, Vice-President Mary Dee Macpherson, Secretary Susan Belliveau, Carolyn Torrie, Don McCormick, Anne Newman, and Sheila Allen.

Regrets: Adrien Baillargeon, Treasurer Harold Delaney, Pierre Landry.

Call to order, welcome by president

Approval of the agenda:

Moved by Mary Dee, seconded by Carolyn with one addition (staff appreciation input).

Motion carried.

Approval of the minutes:

*Moved by Carolyn, seconded by Anne. **Motion carried.***

Business arising from the minutes:

Anne Murray Centre update -- Susan updated the members on the status of the Legends & Lies Festival indicating the AMC Board has approved the hiring of comedian Bette MacDonald to host. She also indicated the board had approved a March 18th concert featuring Juno award-winning and Canadian Country Music Association Hall of Fame inductee, Gary Fjellgaard (pronounced: "Fell-Guard"). The concert will be held in the CIBC room at the community centre.

Correspondence:

- 1) Invitation from Innovacorp to attend the 1-3 Technology Start-Up Competition Awards Reception on Feb. 9. The invitation was declined due to prior commitments.
- 2) Certificate of membership renewal from the Atlantic Provinces Chambers of Commerce.

- 3) Email from school board representative Marilyn Thompson providing a website: www.savegrade2.com where members can go to find information about possible education cuts.

Reports:

- 1) There was no financial report as the treasurer was unable to make the meeting. The president indicated the chamber would have to address the lack of a financial report.
- 2) Mary Dee gave a report on the AGM indicating 62 tickets were sold with eight complimentary tickets given out. Funds taken in included \$1,100 in cash and cheques with \$450 outstanding. She pointed out the chamber may see a small profit from the proceeds of the AGM tickets. Carolyn commented on the selection process for Business/Business Person of the Year, saying Chalis was wondering they have been selected. Mary Dee explained the nominees' names are brought forward by the membership. Susan suggested in future the chamber send out nomination forms to the membership and follow up with personal visits or phone calls.
- 3) Regarding the new executive committee, Frank pointed out the chamber followed proper protocol by using a formal election process to duly elect the new executive.
- 4) The Town of Springhill has asked the chamber to send out Cat surveys to our membership. To which Mary Dee commented that she felt since this will have an impact on tourism the chamber should participate because it affects all of us. It was also noted the cut of the Cat ferry will see 500 plus in job losses. **Action taken: Motion by Susan to forward the survey to the membership, seconded by Anne. Motion Carried.**
- 5) It was reported the Nova Scotia Chambers of Commerce will hold its quarterly meeting and premier's breakfast on March 2. **Action taken: Motion by Susan that the president attends the quarterly meeting and premier's breakfast, traveling to it the evening before and staying overnight in a hotel due to the early start of the breakfast. Seconded by Carolyn. Motion Carried.**
- 6) Susan provided information on a proposal that the Chamber create an information hotline for its membership to encourage and provide a means of exchanging advice and information between the chamber members. The chamber decided that Susan and Adrien should make up an ad hoc committee to bring back information and a recommendation regarding the proposal.

- 7) Adrien was nominated as the chamber's volunteer of the year candidate. ***Action taken: Carolyn moved that the chamber nominate Adrien as volunteer of the year, seconded by Anne. Motion Carried.***
- 8) Anne outlined a chamber marketing survey that could be conducted by the NSCC business school students as part of course requirements. ***Action taken: Sheila moved that the chamber participate in the survey as outlined, seconded by Carolyn. Motion Carried.***
- 9) Carolyn indicated the next staff appreciation will include staff of the schools and asked what chamber members would like on the gift tags. It was decided the tags should read: "Thank you for all you do for our students & community."
- 10) Regarding a request for the Chamber to sponsor a presentation on estate planning, the chamber decided after a lengthy discussion the request was outside the chamber's mandate to provide a voice for and promote the interests of the local business community. ***Action taken: Motion by Susan that the Chamber feels it cannot support this request as it is outside our mandate, seconded by Carolyn. Motion Carried.***

Next meeting: March 3/10 at JB's 1 pm