

Caledonia Regional Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors

# Minutes

July 17, 2015

**ATTENDANCE:** Ken Parr, Gary Nelson, Maureen Thomson, Tony Alexander, Suzanne Athanasiou, David Dishke, Randy Peirson, Len Offless,

Also: Anne Unyi, Tracy Vandervliet, Jocelyne Fleming, Canada Day Chair Gail MacLellan and Barbara Martindale

Conflict of Interest: No-one

## 1. WELCOME

President Ken Parr welcomed those in attendance, especially Gail MacLellan. Ken said good weather was perfect for a good Canada Day.

### **GAIL MacLELLAN - Chair Canada Day**

Gail MacLellan said it was a terrific Canada Day and she said there has been fantastic positive feedback. The changes and improved layout enhanced the day itself. Craft Vendors in the parking lot venue were given accolades. As well the Car Show on the Ramsay Walk across the Grand was also met with praise. Gail said she suspected 80% of the attendance was from out of town. That in itself was very successful this year.

A couple of things dealing with Canada Day include the fact that Haldimand County gave a grant of \$10,000 under Festivals and Events. In the mandate for that \$10,000 the committee was encouraged to enhance the festival. The committee met the requirements. However there was no OPP presence on the day of the event. We were not advised about required road closures until the day before. There were a number of new requirements - unexpected fire safety, unexpected electrical safety ESA requirements which ended up costing the committee \$1100 extra and emergency procedures needed to be in place. Initially Hald. Cty. wasn't going to let us use the Ramsay Walk for the Car Show - had to do with cars on grass but that was given approval later on. Tennis Courts weren't fenced until finally they were fenced just the week before Canada Day.

Gail said she was resigning as Chair. Although there are a few reasons, she said the main reason is the number of hours, daytime hours, away from work. She said Canada Day is purely volunteer-driven. She said this year's event needed about 150 volunteers. She also said the sponsorship for Canada Day is absolutely great, thanks to our business community.

Feedback from Board members - A list of where volunteers are needed when and what time will encourage more volunteers. People need to know these answers to make plans. What would make it easier for the next Chair? Gail said two or three subcommittees were void of a chair. Co Chairing Canada Day would be good. Having daytime hours available is essential.

B. Martindale said although it is not known at this time, Ian Thompson was in the office this past week to say he would be taking on Chair of Canada Day if the committee was in agreement.

Tony Alexander thanked Gail for her leadership and chairmanship of Canada Day. He said those who create an impediment need to know who they are. Ken Parr said perhaps meeting with 3 or 4 people from Haldimand County who are involved should sit in on a meeting and a letter pointing out some of the frustrations should be written.

## 2. MINUTES

**MOVED by Len Offless, seconded by Tony Alexander that the June 19 minutes be accepted and confirmed for sending to members. CARRIED.**

Because of summer time meetings being the third Friday only in July and August, there wasn't a meeting the first Friday in July.

## 3. BUSINESS ARISING

- a) **The attendance sheet** was checked off.
- b) **Website Committee** – Another photo shoot is being held with longer hours from 12 noon to 6 pm on Wednesday July 22.
- c) **Report re insurance claim** – nothing further
- d) **Chamber's Mission and Goals** Revisited – A draft of the changes to Short Term and Long Term Goals was distributed. It was decided that the Short Term goals were AOK. Long Term goals were discussed and combinations of points brought long term goals down to 3 points. See Draft #3 emailed with the minutes.

e) **Meeting with Mayor Ken Hewitt** - brief minutes from the June 24th meeting were distributed. The meeting with the Mayor was called in regard to Special Projects when it comes to projects on County land. Pres. Ken Parr said Spec. Proj. is basically idle because of mixed messages from Haldimand County and how the Chamber sits in regard to doing work in the community. The general consensus was that it was good to identify the problem and further discussion about the subject would be beneficial. Another meeting is being scheduled as suggested by the Mayor with Hald. Cty CAO Don Boyle and Sheila Wilson.

f) **Appreciation Night** - The suggested date of the first Wed. in October was pulled back to a date in September. Suggestion: Wed. Sept. 23rd.

g) **October busy month** - Caledonia Fair is Oct. 1-4th. Thanksgiving Oct. 12th. Fed. Election is Oct. 19th. All Candidates Night needs to be held before that. And Hald. Cty Recognition Night is Oct. 14. Nominations need to be submitted before Aug. 28th.

#### **4. FINANCE/SUCCESSION PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Nothing further at this time.

#### **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. **Hald-Nor Credit Union** - letter re special meeting Thurs. July 9 and decision about Libro which was

2. **OPG Announcement** - Closure of Nanticoke Generating Station. Site will be decommissioned safely, securely and in an environmentally responsible manner.

3. **Montreal Canadiens Alumni** - Is any organization interested in a fundraising game with Alumni. Info about how to set up

4. **Hagersville Rocks** - July 25. We have tickets at the office. Info on sponsorship.

5. **Habitat for Humanity** - Suzanne Athanasiou reported that there are two Drop Off dates at the Fairgrounds - July 25th and Wed. August 19th. In conjunction with Caledonia Fair's Junk in the Trunk event, the resale date will be Sun. August 23rd. Publicity includes Sachem, radio, facebook etc. and whatever the Chamber can do to get the word out.

#### **6. COMMITTEE REPORTS - (time limit would allow only important reporting)**

a) **Tourism Caledonia**

b) **Special Projects**

c) **Economic Development**

**BIA's CMC** - Jocelyne Fleming reported Movie Night for tomorrow night July 18. She said she struggles with Hald. Cty. when it comes to washroom closures too early and not being opened for Movie goers. She said it is frustrating and disrespectful to person who has contributed to park and event encouragement.

**LaFortune Park**

**Bridge Replacement**

**Haldimand Business Network**

d) **Caledonia Connected**

e) **Canada Day** - see above report

#### **7. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Could garbage around Splash Pad be picked up more regularly?

#### **8. ADJOURNED**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:10 am.

#### **9. NEXT MEETING – Fri. August 21, 2015 at the Train Station at 8 am.**