

**MARKDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
GENERAL MEETING – April 16 09  
7 p.m. SIDEKICKS CAFÉ**

**MINUTES**

**DINNER:** 6 p.m. Thanks conveyed to JD for the lovely dinner of meatloaf and Caesar salad. \$50 donated for dinner will be forwarded to Cops for Cancer campaign.

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:05 p.m.

**ATTENDING:** Doug Crawford, Rick Gamblen, Kathy Gamblen, Janie Badgerow. JD Daly, Lynn Silvertown.

**REGRETS:** Kate Russell; Patti Shaw; Wayne Fitzgerald.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Review and approval March 19, 2009 meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kathy Gamblen seconded by Janie Badgerow that the minutes of the March 19, 2009 meeting as presented be approved. CARRIED.

**BUSINESS ARISING:**

*Business Directory* – Doug reported that he had not as yet met with David Turner.

*Flesherton Chamber Networking* - Doug and David will share special projects that can be done together.

*Golf Tournament Committee* – Rick, JD and Doug met to discuss the September 13/09 event and Rick provided the following report. This will be held at the Markdale Golf & Curling Club and will consist of 18 holes, shotgun start. 40 participants are expected. Prizes are required for the prize table.

*Position of Office Clerk and Secretary job description* - The committee met and the suggestions put forward Rick and Doug met and formalized. Doug will meet with Kate to discuss the results.

*Signing Authority* - Two of three signatures will be required. Signing authority is given to the Chairman Doug Crawford, Charmaine Peever and Don Kopplin.

*Cruise Night Committee* - Doug, JD and Lynn met April 14/09 at Sidekicks. JD provided the following report. This popular event is to be held July 03/09 at the usual location. Three groups wish to do fundraisers selling hot dogs etc. At the Olde Fire Hall, Participation Loge will set up. At the Post Office location, The Markdale Rotary and Christian Family Holiday by the hospital. These sites are thought to be suitable in so far

as they will provide sufficient room to keep the food away from the cars. 150 gift bags for participants will be needed. Janie said that there were some left over from last year. Volunteers to fill more bags to the amount of 150ish (as per last year's participants numbers).

Door prizes will be called out every half hour assuming that enough gifts are provided. Lynn is to write the municipality asking permission to close Main Street from HWY 10 to about Chapmans. Lynn also to organize the erection of barriers. Lynn has asked Kate to send electronically letterhead for this purpose. Lynn to speak to Marg Doig of the hospital and Ken McArthur of Markdale and Area Fire Department re notification of the road closures so that the hospital, fire department and ambulance can prepare for this event.

Rick Tourlousse will entertain at the parkette and JD, Casey Watanabe MAY continue the entertainment at the Olde Fire Hall parking lot after 9pm. Doug will talk to Beth re: Citizen of the Year and he will organize with Wiltons, three portable toilettes.

Re financing, it is thought that due to the financial problems this year that five donors at \$200 or other portions of the needed \$1,000.00 would be a more successful when asking businesses for donations. Their sponsorship will be advertised on the posters etc. Lynn to have event information placed on scrolling 'coming events' on municipal website.

***Summer Student Status*** – Kate will have up-to-date info. Kate was not at the meeting.

***Letter writing status*** - Kate will have up-to-date info. Kate was not at the meeting.

***Downtown Snow Removal*** – Merchants upset about the snow banks. It is believed that shoppers do not shop as much as they have difficulty negotiating the snow banks. Lynn to look into this and report to Doug. Doug may attend the next Public Works Committee meeting May 27<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. if not satisfied with the information from Lynn.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

***Development committee:*** A development committee would be a good plan for looking to get downtown businesses vibrant. Stan Baker was the invited guest speaker and he related the many things that his council and the community did to attract businesses to Markdale. One of these initiatives was to visit with Hazel Macalium a few times for valuable information. Another was the assistance from council and the community to companies such as Chapmans and Terra Shoes. Stan in fact operated a backhoe for free when the buildings were under construction. Others from the community Stan mentioned are Arkle Dunlop, Jack Norris and Nelson Henry. Stan advised the Chambers and Council should plan to meet regularly. In the past they met 2 to 3 times a year.

This committee of the Chamber will be created and at this time, Stan Baker, Doug, Rick and perhaps Dave Thompson will be on it – others interested should contact Doug. Doug spoke to Stan Baker – will be happy to help with a development committee.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** follow up membership check of the businesses on the list. Doug will also meet with Kathy re the members update on her benefits list, deleting and adding members as required.

Janie suggested a questionnaire be prepared and given to members and would be members. Lindsay was working on that so a status is needed.

**PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Wayne on vacation.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer busy with tax reports, unable to attend the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*Volunteer week coming soon.* In the past this has been held at the GHSS. Kate is still involved with it and Doug will ask her put the Chambers volunteer needs on the web site.

The Markdale Standard asked the Chamber to sponsor a volunteer week ad that they are working on. The Chambers cost will be \$150.00 this also is printed in the Owen Sound Sun Times.

**MOTION** moved by Janie, seconded by Kathy that the Chamber go with the ad with discussed changes. **CARRIED**

**BEAUTIFICATION** – hanging flower baskets were discussed. \$500.00 budgeted for that group. Janie will contact the Hort Society and ask if the Chamber purchases to baskets, will the Hort Society take care of the watering. Doug asked Kathy to put together a questionnaire for businesses to see what they want for beautification and would they take ownership of projects that are designed to beautify the downtown area.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Moved by J.D., seconded by Janie meeting adjourn at 9:10 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** May 21, 2009 – 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. meeting at Sidekicks.