

**MARKDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
EXECUTIVE MEETING – JAN. 15, 2009  
7 p.m. Walter Harris Memorial Library – Boardroom  
MINUTES**

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

**ATTENDING:** Doug Crawford, Don Kopplin, Charmaine Peever, JD Daly, Wayne Fitzgerald, Janie Badgerow, Patti Shaw, Kate Russell.

**REGRETS:** Rick Gamblen, Lynn Silverton, Shelley Lapointe.

Nereda Manion has resigned her position on the board for personal family reasons. She emailed to inform us.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS:** There were none.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Executive Meeting, Oct. 16, 2008

Doug asked about Telizon – still a ways away from getting enough people to get discounts through. Contract signed, but not coming through yet.

**MOTION:** Moved by Don Kopplin, seconded by Janie Badgerow to approve the minutes from Oct. 16, 2008. Carried.

**BUSINESS ARISING:**

***Business Directory idea:*** Kate reported the opportunity to have a business directory this year – potential to make funds but may not fly in this climate. Will compile a directory and investigate costs for printing – possibly partner with municipality and Flesherton Chamber. Doug was invited to Flesherton Chamber Christmas party – they are good with idea of doing projects together. Could be a good way to start. Charmaine added she has spoken with new president of Flesherton Chamber, David Turner, potential to come to a future meeting. Wayne, good way to work together moving forward. Potential for commission basis. No restrictions to municipality only. Book would also list events etc.

**ACTION:** We could meet with Flesherton and Markdale Chamber – Doug, Charmaine, Kate, David Turner by the end of January

***Golf tournament*** – partner with hospital foundation? Will follow up with foundation, see if they want to partner in 2009. Set up a committee to organize. Best in spring or fall.

**ACTION:** Form a committee to organize the golf tournament. Wayne, Doug, JD will sit on committee. Date potentially earlier in September. But later – 20<sup>th</sup> is good. Get radio station involved.

***George Lorenz*** was sent \$100 honorarium for weeding downtown. Mailed in December as he was ill in Nov. for our AGM.

***Parking signs*** purchased – to be put up in Spring.

***Chamber supported*** Farmer's Week group insurance booth – cost \$83.33

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Doug Crawford**

Potential to form Development Committee – report on meeting with Mayor. First meeting of the year, we all know each other. Still need a vice president, process through a few months – people to decide. Doug mentioned pro-development at AGM, was pro-development. Met with Mayor, why felt the municipality wasn't pro-development. Met with Mullin on Friday, reviewed some ideas. The Chamber would like to see development move ahead in village – would like to see ideas put forth, municipality put a “better foot forward.” Mayor said for us to bring ideas forward. Would potentially form a group within the Chamber to come up with some ideas. Speaker at AGM, had some great ideas, maybe the municipality would like to hear what he said – Kelley (CAO) was interested. Stan Baker also spoke to Doug about Markdale. Used to go out and actively recruit businesses for Markdale. Offered to assist in obtaining businesses for Markdale – others are also interested. Kate mentioned the SEDC – wants prospectus for Nordic – potential for Terra footwear. Wayne noted the search is already on with developers of industrial.

Ad-hoc committee of economic development, doesn't feel climate is appropriate on council to put forward ideas for development.

**ACTION:** Form development committee to look for and forward to ideas for municipality.

## **PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Wayne Fitzgerald**

*New subdivision:* Wayne reported on a development proposal being presented to the Markdale Golf & Curling Club board – 50 single family homes on golf club property. Preliminary talks are underway. Developer is drafting a plan of subdivision.

*Primary Care Facility:* CEO Grey County – offered 1.3 acre piece at Grey Gables site for a primary care facility. Still also looking at Blue Water District School Board building. Working with Abbeyfield, they are working with architect to see if would work for them. Have met with Dr. Power re: site requirements. BWDSB – would be 1.2M. Grey Gables – \$2.25M (larger building). Not aware of any site costs on BWDSB, whereas new site, .5M for site improvements. More like 2.5M for Greenfield site. Will be working with developer to ensure build – 3 doctors and 2 NP commitments. Then would seek other tenants.

Doug met with Peter Fallis re: Durham clinic has some good figures to attract doctors to the Durham clinic. The Durham clinic is looking at joining hospital and clinic with other specialized tenant offerings – sports fitness etc. Perhaps he could come and sit down with us to discuss agreements – for some tips. Maybe he needs to talk with the “building group” that Wayne is heading up. Will meet with hospital board soon with proposal.

Another woman in Dornoch who administrates clinics, could assist as well with tips on administering the clinics.

**ACTION:** Doug/Wayne will invite Peter Fallis to attend a meeting of the foundation's building group – headed up by Wayne on behalf of the Chamber.

## **PERSONELL ISSUES:**

Benefits for manager: The idea to purchase Benefits for manager (suggested at the AGM in November) was discussed briefly. Kate has received a quote from Grey Bruce Insurance and is negotiating the package. Further discussion was deferred until board members have time to review the package and are in budget discussions.

**ACTION:** Kate will email the cost and quote to members. Discuss as part of budget.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Need to appoint a Vice President. Will assess as we go along.

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Don Kopplin**

**Financial Statement:** Presentation of Dec. 31 statement – Don Kopplin reviewed two sets – 1<sup>st</sup> set has Trillium and Hospital funds, second set has just the Chamber's monies. One cheque was not covered – bounced – needs to be re-paid to Rocklyn Ag. Society. Still need to payout the hospital fund.

**MOTION:** Moved by Charmaine Peever, seconded by Wayne Fitzgerald that the financial statement be accepted as presented. Carried.

**Payables** report – see attached. Manager presented and explained the payables.

**MOTION:** Moved by Janie Badgerow seconded by Patti Shaw that the payables be accepted as presented and paid. Carried.

**Budget** – pending for presentation February Executive meeting – based on year end financials as presented.

**MOTION:** Moved by JD Daly, seconded by Wayne Fitzgerald that President Doug Crawford and director Charmaine Peever be assigned as new signators. Further that Nereda Manion be removed as a signator as she has resigned. Carried.

**MANAGER'S REPORT: Kate Russell**

**Trillium:** Time owing from Trillium grant now expired. Trillium grant final report submitted prior to Jan. 1, 2009 deadline.

**Local event funds:** Celebrate Ontario grant application submitted for Markdale Fall Fair.

**Trillium grant for Olde Firehall:** Next deadline is Mar. 1/09 – Municipality has not confirmed support – in form of funds contribution for electrical work and rear roof repairs (as earlier suggested). Application is pending. Still require some quotes for work. Wayne mentioned he spoke to Stewart Halliday, who was wondering what was going on. Municipality was supposed to do the grant – Mayor cancelled collaboration. Now they aren't doing it. 180 degree turn. We could proceed alone without municipality, but could be rejected as lack of support from owner of building. Chamber final report on current grant is still pending. Not likely to make the March 1 deadline.

**ACTION:** Need to form a committee to review. Kate and Wayne need to get together to go over contents and requirements for building.

**Membership renewals** pending – will be mailed out shortly, will include insurance outline, Merchant Visa information and membership stickers.

**Cruise Night** – scheduled for Friday, July 3.

**ACTION:** Budget needs to be compiled – committee struck to organize event.

**Summer student** application pending – for February.

**ACTION:** manager will apply for a summer student for the tourism info booth – will also assist with Fall fair as this will aid ability to get approval for the student.

Physician Recruitment: Manager has stepped off Physician Recruitment committee as she does not have the time or energy for this committee. Chamber is represented through the primary care facility committee mentioned above. Manager will still supply information and assist the committee with information, but will not do special projects (website) or attend meetings. Manager asked if any board members have an interest in this committee.

**ACTION:** Not needed to sit on the committee. Approach general membership to see if anyone interested in sitting on Physician Recruitment Committee.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Town of the Blue Mountains – re: Landfill Expansion and Mining – file
- Receipt for \$200 donation to Annesley – Xmas baskets – file
- Land & Economic Development Conference – too expensive - file
- Physician Recruitment Committee – request for letter support hospital – action?

**ACTION:** Bring sample letters to next meeting so members may write own letter.

- Markdale Seniors – thanks for speaking and support Olde Firehall – grant app.
- Church of Nazarene – Shannyn’s Well – request for donation. The goal has already been reached. File

**ACTION:** Congrats letter.

- Beaver Valley Bruce Trail – re: Day Hike Maps 09/survey – buy for booth?

**ACTION:** New map for this year? Put in budget discussions.

- Jason Jenner & Wes Irwin – Business Insurance discount coming.

**ACTION:** Will include details in renewal package if ready – if not will include in newsletter.

- Saugeen Country – ads for 2009 - \$135 for bus. Card ads – discussion. Board decided not to advertise in this publication again this year.
- Co-marketing Grey Bruce - okay this year

**ACTION:** Manager will contact Owen Sound Chamber to get in this magazine ad.

- Police Services Board – strategic review/letter request – file
- Thomas Oates – re: questions for police strategic review – file
- Thomas Oates – re: flag flying rules – apply to Chamber policy

**ACTION:** Chamber tradition of flying Canada flags through summer needs to be revisited in light of the flag flying rules.

- Greenhawk Markdale – complaint to municipality re: ice on roofs – file

**REPORT:** Manager offered she wrote a letter to the municipality and supported the local retailers in their quest to resolve a dangerous ice issue in the downtown. It was resolved and the municipality is now considering bylaws to manage this issue in the future.

- Group Insurance reports & Group Insurance key times newsletter – file

- Bell Canada – details for toll free line – file
- TO: Markdale Seniors – Manager sent letter with permission to hang sign on gateway sign – sent

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Doug had an idea in the potential to hold executive meetings as dinner meetings. Same idea as Rotary – a relaxing night out to be more social. Supper at 6 p.m. then meeting at 7 p.m. JD offered to set-up the next meeting – Feb. 19 – buffet at Sidekicks to try out the idea.

*Need committees:* development committee; membership committee/welcome package (Janie); business directory/networking committee (Charmaine); Cruise Night committee; golf tournament committee; Santa parade committees.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 9 p.m

**NEXT MEETING:** Feb. 19, 2009 at Sidekicks.