

Eckville Chamber of Commerce
Luncheon Meeting
Thursday September 8, 2011

Meeting Location: Town Office

Chairman: Marty Jones
Vice Chairman: Shawn Adair
Recording Secretary: Rick Anderson
Treasurer: Sharon Lemke

Attendance: Mitch Krecsy, Marty Jones, Dale Cretien, Dana Kreil, Karin Engen, Sharon Lemke, Evelyn Onofryszyn, Rick Anderson

Guests: Deanna Matthews, Dana Dickson

1) Call to Order: Chairman Marty Jones called the meeting to order @ 12:10 PM

2) Review of Minutes: August 4, 2011. Note meeting called to order should have read 12:12 PM.

Motion: Dana Kreil moved the minutes be accepted as amended.
Seconded by Mitch Krecsy -- Carried

3) Business arising from minutes:

a) Wise Owl: Tabled to October meeting

b) Strategic Planning Session: Mitch reported the Alberta Chamber does not offer weekend programs. Mitch to contact Alberta Culture & Community Services to see if they can host a weekend strategic planning program.

c) Chamber Handbook:

i) What is a Chamber? From the Alberta Chamber of Commerce handbook, the members present reviewed pages 1-3, a brief synopsis of the general organization, purpose, objectives, and basic funding of a Chamber of Commerce. Anderson suggested sending a copy of the first three pages to all members. Karin Engen suggested the first step is to develop a strategic plan. Lively discussion from the floor contested the value of a strategic plan to motivate existing and potential new members. Dana Kreil suggested, for the Chamber to function at a higher level to our members we need boots on the ground and that might mean hiring a part time administrative person to handle correspondence, chamber mailings, chamber

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renewals etc. This then prompted discussion on the fees that we charge. If we are going to pay someone to handle the administrative tasks of the Chamber then fees would have to be amended to cover the costs. The general consensus seemed to favor adjusting annual dues, hiring help with a view to better promote and present the Chamber to existing and potential new members. Sharon Lemke volunteered to chair a sub-committee to review the rate and provide suggestions and guidelines at the next meeting.

ii) Eckville Chamber Bylaws: Sharon reported she has secured a copy of our bylaws. Copies were circulated to those present. It was determined no changes were required at this time. Note: The Eckville Chamber of Commerce year end is actually January 31 as opposed to December 31.

d) Chamber Memberships: Sharon Lemke suggested the membership renewal mail out be postponed until after the subcommittee has reviewed and reported their findings to the members at the October meeting....**Tabled to October.**

4) New Business:

a) www.livecommunities.com Sharon provided a copy of an e-mail from Barry Grant and a letter from the Town of Eckville requesting feedback on Barry Grant's proposal of an internet website for business to promote themselves on the web at a cost of \$12.00/month. Copies were circulated for review. **Tabled to October Meeting.**

5) Treasurer Report: Sharon Lemke presented the treasurers report as printed on the agenda

Bank balance =	\$4987.93
Trust Fund =	\$908.98
Total =	\$5896.91

6) Update of Alberta Chamber Happenings: Sharon Lemke – No report

7) Update of Community Happenings: Karin Engen provides a verbal report

8) Update of Town Happenings: Dale Cretien – reports flood repairs to town office are near completion. No word from the Alberta Government of flood relief assistance

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9) Update from County: Dana Kreil – Report submitted:

- Rural dust control bylaw passed. Rural business owners will now pay 1/3 of the total cost as compared to 100% of the total cost for dust control on neighboring residents adjacent to their rural business.
- Eckville Manor Home staff voted in favor of Unionizing.
- Fire Chief Gord Balon retired and Stuart Card was appointed as the new Fire Chief.
- Public Meeting for the Off Highway Vehicle by-law will be held at the County Office at 7:00 PM Thursday November 3, 2011

10) Adjournment: Karin Engen moved to adjourn:

Meeting adjourned 1:25 PM