

# NORTH DUNDAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## MEETING – JUNE 15, 2011

Present: Heather McMahon, Sandie Puddephatt, Ed Puddephatt, Eric Duncan, Owen Shortt, Chris Hart, Colin Pring, Bill Smirle, Vince Zandbelt, Rose Stewart, Roy Glassford

### **Welcome**

Owen welcomed everyone to the meeting followed by each individual introducing themselves and their business.

### **Mayor's Report**

Eric Duncan reported that the Township had completed the process of hiring an Economic Development Officer. The successful candidate is Rob Hunter who currently hails from Brockville. Rob will be starting in his new position on Monday, July 4. The Township would like to hold a joint sponsored network meeting at Winchelsea on Wednesday July 6<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 pm to 9:00pm to introduce Rob to the business community of North Dundas

It was moved by Colin Pring, seconded by Chris Hart to co-sponsor this event with the Township to a maximum of \$850.00. Carried

Eric indicated that Council is still working on design logos for the Welcome Signs to North . It must be mentioned that the logos affect not only the Welcome signs but everything in the Township from vehicles to letterhead and as such a common standardization is needed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Colin noted that while there had been an improvement in member dues, they were still down.

It was moved by Colin Pring, seconded by Bill Smirle that the Treasurer's Report as presented be accepted. Carried

### **Chamber Registration (2011)**

Owen admitted that although most businesses utilized the computer in the course of their every day work and all members were encouraged to register via the internet, the results from the mail out of the registration forms still indicate that this means of contact cannot be relegated to the dump, yet.

There were some issues regarding the password as some members were unable to register as either they had forgotten it or it would not work. Owen suggested if anyone was experiencing this difficulty to contact John.

### **Chamber Bylaws**

Any changes to the by-laws will be presented at the Annual Meeting for discussion and approval.

### **Provincial Debate**

Colin will work with Eric Duncan as to time and place in regards to a possible candidates' debate in the upcoming provincial election similar to that held during the federal election.

### **Donations / Sponsorship**

Following a request from the Chesterville Fair Board for sponsorship of \$300 towards a talent show during the fair, discussion ensued regarding the whole issue of donations/sponsorship. This was in no way a reflection of the Chesterville Fair Board request. Rather, it was how should the Chamber respond to such requests. Many members felt they are constantly bombarded with requests from this group and that group and why should the Chamber (which they also fund) be giving money as well.

Owen suggested an idea of "Chamber Bucks" whereby the event would be given "Chamber Bucks" which could only be redeemed within the community who were generally the main sponsors. The Bucks could be redeemed for supplies needed by the event or as prizes. There was much discussion how the Bucks would be purchased from the Chamber and the submitted for reimbursement especially as due to the nature of some businesses, some would be utilized more than other businesses.

It was decided to revisit this topic at the next meeting to see if each event would be weighed on its own merit or only certain events (at the start of the year) would be supported, or whatever.

### **Winchester Hawks**

There was request to have the Chamber logo on the Hawk's tickets for an upcoming fundraiser. No problem was envisioned.

### **Upper Canada**

Owen reported that from time to time, he is approached to see if there is any thought to re-branding the area of S.D. &G. to Upper Canada. This generally comes from the tourist sector. It was felt there were limited benefits in the North Dundas area.

**Business Cards**

Vince reported on special business cards that he had seen at other arena bulletin boards and wondered if the Chamber might want to have a similar feature of Chamber members who were interested at the Winchester & Chesterville arenas.

**Next Meeting** Wednesday, July 20, 2011 , location to be announced

It was moved by Ed Puddephatt, seconded by Vince Zambelt to adjourn the meeting.  
Carried