

**Ashern & District Chamber of Commerce**  
**Minutes**  
**Tuesday, Mar 2, 2010**  
**7:00 pm at Fieldstone Ventures**

**I. Call to Order**

Jenna Ruchotzke called to order the regular meeting of the Ashern & District Chamber of Commerce of Tuesday, Mar 2nd at Fieldstone Ventures at 7:05 pm.

**Members Present:**

Jenna Ruchotzke, Jamie Bruce, Dianne Hornby, Lyle Hornby, Shelley Bjornson, Edith Peterson, Ken Hall, Kevin Van Den Bussche, Sandra McDougall, Amanda Metner, Marlene Metner  
Others: Sheri Osmond, Katelynn B

**II. Approval of Agenda**

Lyle approves agenda with additions, Sandra seconds.

**III. Approval of Minutes as posted**

Sheri read minutes and will revise portion of minutes stating the \$60,000 Recreation grant will be available again next year. It will not. Motion made by Lyle to approve minutes with corrections. Marlene seconds. Motion carried.

**IV. Treasurer Report**

Dianne circulated Treasurer Report. \$450 in memberships was received; administrator wages & supplies were paid. Lyle made motion to make a payment of \$1000 towards the loan from Chicken Chef for the Sasha Carter sign. Shelley seconded motion. All in favour; motion carried.

Bank Balance: \$4950.18

Jenna approves, Sandra seconds. Motion carried.

**V. Welcome Wagon Report**

Sandra reported that she has 2 new names on list to receive Welcome wagon baskets. Baskets have been delivered to the new doctors. ***All Chamber members are asked to bring items for the Welcome wagon baskets to the LIFE office.***

**VI. Website Update:**

No report given.

**VII. Correspondence**

- Magazines dispersed
- Correspondence and upcoming events reviewed and dispersed.

**VIII. Committee Reports**

- **Membership Drive:** report by Sheri.
  - To date, there have been 52 renewals and 3 complimentary memberships to new businesses, for a total of 55 members. There were 57 members in 2009. Over the next month, Sheri will send "final notices" to members who have not renewed for 2010, prior to removing them from website and insurance.
- **Trade Fest 2010:**
  - Registration: Sheri has sent out 124 invitations via e-mail, fax & mail. Early bird registration deadline is Apr 1. To date, 11 booths have been booked, but we are receiving many calls. Cost of sending out registration

- packages estimated at \$315.00. Receipts will be handed out to exhibitors with pancake breakfast coupons at the show.
- Curtains: Glen has contacted Western Display and is arranging for black display curtains for this year.
- Bookings: Nicole Kebrat has been booked to give speech on being a torchbearer. Dave Green has been booked for entertainment. CKDM has been booked. Ads have begun in Around Town. LIFE will work the door. ***Sheri will set up the next committee meeting for next week.***
- **Canada Day / Homecoming 2010 celebrations:**
  - Shelley has been in contact with Sasha Carter about possible dates for the sign unveiling. ***Edith will contact Sasha to finalize a date.***
  - Committee has applied for a government grant for \$7500. Celebrations to include: July 1<sup>st</sup> entertainment during the day, Spruce Ridge Farms Pitch fork fondue in the evening and possibly a dance or social. Fireworks in evening, Sasha Carter sign unveiling (TBD) and Horse Club may be hosting a Ranch Rodeo (TBD). ***Jenna will call around to borrow Turkey Fryers for fondue, Marlene will check on stainless steel pitchforks. Sub Committee to meet next week.***

**IX. Open Issues:** none

**X. New Business**

- **Age Friendly Community Consultation:** Sandra extended an invitation to an evening dinner meeting on Tues, May 11 at the Legion Hall. There will be a 20 minute presentation on age friendly communities, and then a survey will be distributed and completed. There will be a break for supper then a brainstorming session on how to make our community more age friendly. ***Sheri will add the event to the upcoming event listing on ashern.ca.***

**Age Friendly Community Consultation Dinner meeting  
Tues eve, May 11, 2010  
Legion Hall, Ashern  
Attendance: Free**

- **Ashern Centennial Celebrations:** will be celebrated in 2012. RM will contribute funds to advertise and to rent a hall to host a brainstorming meeting. Henry has volunteered to facilitate the meeting. Application has been made to have the RCMP musical ride attend; possibly in Aug. Lyle made motion for Chamber to spearhead the initial meeting for Sept 16, 2010. Sandra seconds motion. All in favour; motion carried. ***Sandra will book hall for Sept 16, 2010. Sheri will add centennial celebration to Aug agenda.***
- **Eriksdale CU fund:** Clayton could not attend tonight's meeting, but asked Sheri to bring up the CU Social and Economic Development fund which has \$30,000 available. He would like the Chambers support to apply for funds for the Ashern Welcome Signs update he has been working on. Chamber members were all in favour.
- **Customer Service workshop:** Shelley advised Chamber of a FREE customer service training being put on by Workplace Education MB. Space is limited. Snack is provided. Employers are encouraged to attend with their employees.

**Communication & Customer Service Workshop  
Tues, Apr 27; 4:00 – 7:00 pm  
Ashern Central School Multi Purpose room  
Registration: Free  
E-mail Jehane Johnson at [irc@wem.mb.ca](mailto:irc@wem.mb.ca) by Fri, Apr 23<sup>rd</sup> to register.**

- **CSI West Interlake Career Symposium Update:** Shelley provided update on the career symposium being hosted by Fieldstone Venture **on Fri, May 7, 2010 from 10am – 6pm at the Ashern Centennial Hall.** To date, there are 38 confirmed exhibitors. There will be workshops during the day and Troy Westwood has been booked as the key note lunch hour speaker at the high school. Entertainment will be the Gaudry Boys.
- Ken Hall advised Chamber that he attended the Small Business seminars being put on by Community Futures. He informed chamber that they were VERY good and worthwhile for anyone interested. Shelley copied and circulated the details.
- Jenna advised that she set up a Face book page for Ashern. Send any town events to her in advance of the event and she will post them to the page.
- Ashern would like to extend congratulations to Fieldstone Ventures on organizing the paramedics' course locally. Shelley requested Chamber representation at the next Fieldstone Board meeting on Mar 3 from 5-7 pm.

#### **XI. Next Meeting: General Meeting**

When: Tues, Apr 6<sup>th</sup>

Where: Fieldstone Ventures

Time: 7:00 pm

#### **XII. Future Agenda items:**

- a) Committee for website renewal
- b) Ashern's Centennial: review in Aug meeting.
- c) Items for Welcome wagon baskets – PLEASE BRING to meeting or DROP off at LIFE office

#### **XIII. Adjournment**

Motion by Lyle at 8:20 pm.