

Minutes
Board meeting
Pontiac Chamber of Commerce
Tuesday March 10, 2009@ 6:30
Francoeurs Steak House, Hwy 148 Fort Coulonge

Board members present:

Dan Eagan	Elmside View Farms/DanNan Holsteins, Bristol
Betsy Farrell	Clarendon
Jim Gibson	Pointe aux Pins Lodge, Rapides des Joachims
Mike Hodgins	148 Auto Tech, Clarendon
Todd Hoffman	Campbell's Bay Ciment, Litchfield
Joanne Labadie	Lavender Ridge Farms, Luskville
Luc Lapointe	Lucca Equestrian Centre, Clarendon
Denis Lebrun	Bryson Lake Lodge
Ron MacKillop	MacKillop Financial Group, Thorne
Jean Claude Rivest	Jericom Inc., Campbell's Bay
Jim Thompson	Pine Lodge, Bristol

Non board members present:

Jenny Bousfield	Minutes recorder
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1. The meeting was called to order at 6:49 p.m.
2. The agenda was approved with the following additions: under New Business a) Chelsea Chamber of Commerce; b) The Equity. Under membership: Database. Motioned by Mike Hodgins, seconded by Denis Lebrun.
3. The minutes of February 10, 2009 were approved with the following additions:
 - Page 2: changed from "...an issue and will certainly be dealt with." To "...an issue and certainly has been dealt with." Motioned by Betsy Farrell, seconded by Mike Hodgins.
 - 6. Committee Reports: sentence "He is still waiting for an answer on the issue" has been removed. Motioned by Jim Gibson, seconded by Mike Hodgins.
 - 6. Committee Reports: "Todd Hoffman reported that CDE tendering..." changed to "Todd Hoffman reported meeting concerning CDE tendering..." Motioned by Jim Gibson, seconded by Mike Hodgins.

- 6. Committee Reports: sentence “which is to be built at Sylvio Richards’s place,” removed. Motioned by Betsy, seconded by Jim Gibson.

Approval of renewed minutes motioned by Luc Lapointe, seconded by Betsy Farrell.

4. Communications:

Jim Thompson read a letter from Madeleine Lefebvre of Cégep de l’Outaouais, concerning a program for employers to help kids stay in school. Also, he read a letter concerning the Eastern Ontario (Western Québec) managers meeting. The meeting is to be held in Renfrew on Thursday, April 2nd, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Luc Lapointe has volunteered to attend.

5. Committee Reports:

Government Relations:

Federal:

On March 30, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Campbell’s Bay RA hall there will be a two minister information session with Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Denis Lebel, Secretary of State for Regional Economic Development. It will be a town hall type of event that will feature questions and answers. There was a discussion regarding an entry fee and it was decided that there would be a donations jar at the door.

A budget of \$750 for this event was motioned by Todd Hoffman, seconded by Jean Claude Rivest.

Community Development Trust letter: has been translated and sent to Lawrence Cannon’s EA, Gerry Philippe, requesting that the government discuss with their provincial counterparts a reporting and accounting of dispersments of this trust in the Pontiac region.

Provincial:

The Chamber-Minister McMillan meeting for March 20th in Campbell’s Bay has been cancelled by MNA L’Ecuyer’s office. No new date or reason for cancellation was offered.

Regional:

- a) CLD, discussions with Isabelle D’Bruyn regarding concept of public meetings.
- b) CDE, meeting for March 11th to follow up if tendering policy has been implemented.
- c) Elected Warden: To date two municipalities have offered support to the Chamber’s resolution. They being, Campbell’s Bay and Mansfield.

Transportation: Jim Thompson suggests everyone go to www.commercepontiac.ca and take the rail survey.

Denis Lebrun reported that the Jim’s Lake road would be maintained this summer by the local government

Membership: Luc Lapointe is updating the business list and is putting a mail out together. It will be sent out before the annual meeting.

Database: A list of the businesses is being put together.

Finance: Mike Hodgins provided a finance report. Added to outstanding invoices was stamps and photocopies at \$79.35. The balance as of March 10, 2009 is \$5559.09 and the outstanding invoices total \$630.06. Motion to pay outstanding invoices, motioned by Jim Gibson, seconded by Jean Claude Rivest.

Human Resources: Mike Hodgins, Jim Gibson, and Joanne Labadie are on this committee. They are exploring how to hire a person to take care of the chamber’s business. A discussion followed.

Strategic Planning: Jim Thompson stated that this is a guide of where we think the chamber should go. It is not written in stone and can be changed. Motion to accept strategic plan as written, motioned by Dan Eagan, seconded by Todd Hoffman. Amendment: Motion to add the words ‘and community’ to the mission statement, motioned by Mike Hodgins, seconded by Luc Lapointe. All in favor.

6. Old Business:

Building Materials Drive: Those who supported it, supported it well, but turnout was dismal.

7. New Business:

- a) Chelsea Chamber of Commerce: Jim Gibson reported on a Chelsea Chamber of Commerce meeting that he attended.

- b) The Equity: Todd Hoffman spoke about how the Equity is featuring Pontiac businesses and suggests that they be commended.

- c) Joanne Labadie spoke about the Wine Producers Co-op.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m. Motioned by Luc Lapointe.