

Big White Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 19th August 2015

Board Present:

David Webb (President)
Jude Brunt (Secretary)
Cal Barr
Michael J Ballingall (Past President) – calling in
Leanne Foster (calling in)

Apologies

Mark Lofquist
John Mooney
Don Hickson
Mark Mustacich

Agenda:

President David declared the meeting open at 5.12pm. A quorum was established. The meeting took place at Globe and there were 15 members present.

- **Minutes Agreed from July Meeting** – were distributed. Motioned for acceptance – Jude, Seconded David
- **Matters Arising from Minutes**

There were no matters arising

- **Correspondence Received**

No Correspondence

Reports:

- **Presidents Report**

David highlighted the efforts of members so far in developing a summer at Big White product and noted that guests were enjoying their experiences, but just needed more of them.

- **Treasurers Report**

Don Hickson had sent in advance a financial report for the month.

\$21,000 in bank account, with \$16,000 available after outstanding cheques. A structured budget for annual dues revenue and to ring fence residual money for projects and capital plans is to be presented at the AGM in December.

- **Membership and Marketing Report**

There were two new member applications for this month, Alpine Civil Engineering & Legacy Drywall Services, joining as full members, which brings our total membership to 53. Voted to accept as new members.

- **Tourism Society Report**

Michael J reported on the activity in the past month of the Big White Tourism Society. Communication was challenging due to Skype connections so the report was brief. It was stressed by members that a 2016 calendar of summer events needs to be set by end of October at latest to allow maximum planning and publicity period.

- **Succession Planning**

It was highlighted again that several board members will need to step down at the AGM in September due their 4 year tenure expiring, and that new board members will be sought.

- **New Logo for Chamber**

It was suggested that a new logo is needed to better reflect a 2 season mountain, and the business focus of the Chamber. An idea was put forward for a competition to redesign but on more discussion it was decided there would be limited entrants from the community and that it would take longer to organize. It was decided to put the work out to a local designer with full brief and a maximum budget of \$250.

- **Community Hall Update**

A motion was put forward *“that the Chamber and Community request that RDKB commence a feasibility study for a multi purpose, publicly owned Community Hall on land in the vicinity of Happy Valley. And that this feasibility study be funded by RDKB and any future hall resulting from it be funded via taxation”*. Proposed Jude, Seconded Cal. Motion Carried

- **BWSR and Chamber Policy for Social Media Sites**

The subject of the appropriate use of the main 4 social media sites was discussed at some length:

1. BWSR corporate site
2. BWSR Official Group Page
3. BW Community Village News
4. BW Chamber of Commerce

Trevor agreed to formulate policy guidelines for the Big White controlled sites and to share them at the next Chamber meeting.

- **Commercial Development in Big White**

A survey was sent out to all chamber members and community members in July asking for input into ideas for commercial developments needed at Big White, such as commercial laundry, storage, warehousing etc. David reviewed the results and agreed to forward them on behalf of the Chamber to Peter Plimmer at Big White Ski Resort. The overall results were that there is a need for a Function Junction type of enterprise to be developed.

- **Any Other Business**

Mark Jones of Snowshoe Sams enquired about the progress of mountain biking development on the hill. Trevor and Michael both spoke to the fact that cross country mountain biking may be a priority initially but that there would be both downhill and cross country in Big White's future.

Michael updated on developments in the Chinese market. Now 7 flights a day from mainland China to Vancouver. Businesses need to start thinking about how to host Chinese guests. It was agreed to try to find a qualified guest speaker to address this subject at a future meeting. Mike Cottingham was suggested by Jude.

Meeting Adjourned at 6.24pm

Next meeting September 16th, 5pm at Globe.