

**BRAGG CREEK & AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD MEETING FEB. 17, 2016**

1. Call to Order 5:40 pm – Suzanne

2. Adoption of Agenda – Mark , 2nd Marcella

3. Adoption of minutes of Jan. 20, 2016 – Marcella, 2nd Mark

3.1 Unfinished business – By-law changes re: Chamber Board structure.

These changes will be sent out by email for review, due to lack of attendance. We will vote on changes in March Chamber meeting

4. Presidents Report – Suzanne

4.1 Strategic Planning next steps

Heather sent Suzanne a synopsis of strategic planning meeting. Suzanne would like to set up table discussions at next member meeting, with different topics/areas of discussion at each table with board members facilitating discussions.

4.2 Presidents Round Table

- Suzanne and Mike Medwid – Pres. of BCCA – have met and discussed priorities. Next meeting will include Trails Assoc. and Seniors.
- Community Council has invited Suzanne to meet to discuss plans. Suzanne has let them know that she would like to work with existing entities rather than set up a new one.
- Suzanne has been communicating with Rocky View on state of sidewalks. Status is that there is a contract in place, but cannot go ahead until insurance is in place. Conflict between municipal and provincial as to who will take responsibility. Hoping for resolution soon.
- Suzanne attended Courage in the Creek & the Woods – Wellness Committee and Ladies Aux. Focused on continuing effects of the flood and next steps, follow-up
- Suzanne will be asking individuals to send out letters of support to continue Eric Howie's position (psychologist assisting Bragg Creek residents) through Health and Wellness. It was a contract position and will be expiring soon. Would like to renew.
- Suzanne has been meeting with business owners regarding their concerns. Mainly focusing on communication. How can we support local businesses and not so much tourism? Find a way to showcase businesses, photos etc.

5. Treasurers Report - Marcella

5.1 Financial Statements December and January. Main areas of focus are new revenue: memberships, and group insurance. Main expense: Spirit of Christmas.

Marcella motion to accept Dec. and Jan. treasurers report. Mark 2nd. All in favor.

- Darin Fauth of Chamber Benefits is excited about the possibility of expanding membership base to Canmore and Banff. Mark Kamanchi has met with Stephanie O'Brien at E=MC2. Darin apparently has met with Canmore.

6. Committee Reports

6.1 Memberships & Business Liaison - Yvonne

6.1.1 Welcome Wagon

Format – hard cardboard folder – Welcome to the Bragg Creek Chamber of Commerce – using current branding

Categories include: Membership Benefits; Contacts – photos of Board members, Lisa Bannerman will do for free; Resources, maps, brochures, phone directories, local information; business incentives including special offers from surrounding businesses; Special Events; Tourist info (tap into Visitor Friendly info and “ Top 10 things to do in Bragg Creek” .

Would like to form a committee to help complete project. Work on a budget.

6.1.2 Memberships

Currently have 123 paid members which is down from last year. Had around 150. Pending businesses: Yoga in the Heart, Celtic electric, Sunlife Financial – Lee Onslow. Current complaint amongst members is that we do not have updated information. Need to make sure they fill out membership form every year to capture those changes. Yvonne to work with Heather to set up new member/information sheet.

6.1.3 Business Expo – No new information to report

6.2 Community Liaison

- Tabled

6.3 Marketing and Communications

- Signage in the hamlet has been updated on Balsam Avenue and White Avenue.
- Ordering more tear away maps.
- Working on updates to banners
- Encouraging businesses to have business profiles for website and social media.

6.4 Tourism

- Tabled

6.5 Festivals

- During member meeting will have sign-up sheets for members to volunteer to help with festival activities.

6.6 Grants

- Applied for the Tourism Alberta funding resulting from The Visitor Friendly recommendations. Waiting to hear the results.
- Travel Alberta requires evaluation results for tourism/marketing activities. Suzanne is collating the information.

7. New Business

7.1 Taste of Bragg Creek

- Format will need to change: Unable to acquire a new location other than the Bragg Creek Community Association, which was recently flooded.
- The committee for the T of BC is discussing alternative options and will communicate to the community soon.

8. Next Meeting March 16, 2016

9. Adjournment 6:42pm