

## **Chamber of Commerce Minutes**

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

7:30 p.m.

Winchester Old Town Hall

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by John VanBruinessen in the absence of Gerry Boyce.

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Bob Volks, Owen Shortt, John VanBruinessen, Sandie Puddephatt, Colin Pring, Martin Schoones, Sheri Francis, Joanna Helmer, Kim Smith, Bill Smirle, Doug Pritchard, Dennis Taylor, Willow Patterson, Juanita McNairn, Connie Gruich, Robin Morris, Danielle Byers, Ted Ceelen, Chris Durant, James McKinley

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:** 1) Owen received letter re Chesterville Doctor's Office

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** As of March 11, 2005, there is \$13,485 in bank with at least 10 more cheques to deposit.

**REGISTRAR'S REPORT:** 71 paid members - 14 new. 18 members from last year have not renewed as yet but after Owen made some calls 16 are probable. 3 new businesses have expressed interest in joining.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1) Doctor's Office, Chesterville - Renovations started in late February with a target opening of May 1. The Chamber received a letter requesting a donation to the project. Bill Smirle said any amount would be helpful. Motion made by Colin Pring, seconded by Joanna Helmer to donate \$1500 to the Chesterville Medical Center; all in favor; carried. Cheque to be made out to Township as they are acting as the treasurer for the project.

2) B. R. & E. update - Owen asked if more businesses could still be interviewed and Martin Schoones said yes, so anyone interested please contact a council member and the information will be passed on. The Chamber had agreed to split cost with the Council but Bill Smirle announced that Community Futures would be covering the cost and would forward to Council any info pertaining to North Dundas.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1) New executive, new constitution, new bylaws: A Board of Directors will be elected tonight. Only Board members have voting power but all members can have input on the issues. There will be annual elections at the general meeting. The original bylaw states that the Board shall have at least 7 members and a maximum of 9. Kim Smith made a motion to have that changed to a maximum of 12, seconded by Danielle Byers; all in favor, carried. This would allow more members to become involved.

**NOMINATIONS (prior to meeting):** Gerry Boyce, Colin Pring, Kim Smith, Bob Volks, Doug Pritchard, Joanna Helmer, Owen Shortt, Juanita McNairn, John VanBruinessen

All those nominated accepted the nomination and agreed to stand for election.

**NOMINATIONS FROM FLOOR:** Connie/Doug nominated Robin – accepted. Owen/Joanna nominated Connie – accepted. Owen/Joanna nominated Sandie P. - declined

Since all those nominated are in good standing, nominations were closed and a motion to accept those nominated as the 2005 Chamber Executive was made by Ted Ceelen/Owen Shortt: all in favor; carried.

The new executive met privately and then announced the following positions:

**PRESIDENT** - Doug Pritchard

**1<sup>st</sup> VICE** - Kim Smith

**2<sup>nd</sup> VICE** - Owen Shortt

**SECRETARY** - Juanita McNairn

**TREASURER** - Colin Pring

The Chair was passed to Doug Pritchard who congratulated his new executive. Owen will send the members the information on how to contact any one of the executive along with notice of the next meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, April 20 at 7:30 am at Fitz and Bitz in South Mountain

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned on motion by Danielle/Kim.