

HOPE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 18 2013

In Attendance:

Glen Ogren – President – Hope Brewing Co
Ruby Rempel – Treasurer – Envision Financial
Pauline Cattrell – Secretary – High Hopes Bed & Breakfast
Alison (Ali) Harwood – Director – Boldfish Creative
Cathy Harry – Director – Kal Tire Boston Bar
Scott Medlock – Director – Lordco
Shanon Fischer – Chamber Admin Assistant – Pixel Mountain Studio
Elsie Meyers – Healthpoints Reflexology
Deb Arnott – Community Futures Sun Country
Sherry Farley – Rivers Edge Barkery
Hans Jeschek – Royal Lepage
Stephen Au-Yeung – McDonalds
Alba Bueno Hyland – Free Rein/Work BC
Kathleen Alexis – Free Rein Associates

7:18 PM Meeting called to order

Motion to accept the agenda – Scott, 2nd Ruby. Carried

Motion to accept Minutes of last meeting – Scott, 2nd Ruby. Carried

Motion to Accept Financials – Cathy, 2nd Ali. Carried

Introductions were made by all in attendance.

Glen stated that the Chamber is governed by the Board of Trade and the President can appoint a new director as needed. Sherry Farley of Rivers Edge Barkery graciously offered to become a director as there were a couple of available spots.

Motion to appoint Sherry as a Director – Ruby, 2nd Ali. Carried.

Evening with Trevor Linden

Glen updated the group. Business Development Bank of Canada wants to be a sponsor. They have been contacted. Also TD Bank is interested.

Food was discussed next. Quotes came in from Lori's Catering at 23.87 per plate, Joe's had 2 quotes, one for 30 and one 45 per plate, Owl Street quoted 34.95 with conditions. Discussion ensued regarding the costs. Lori's is a member of the Agassiz Chamber and hold a Hope business license. We have worked

with them before. Menu choices were not available at the meeting, but would be emailed out so that a proper decision could be made.

Scott motioned we email out the menu's with a motion and that we email the vote back by Friday. Ali seconded. Carried.

The bar will be done by the Legion, and Glen has asked Carly Ferguson, the new publisher at the Hope Standard to be the MC for the evening. Tickets are selling. Glen and Shanon will meet with Dave Mawhinney, Lori Isbister, who is doing the decorating, and Pattie Dejardins.

StarFM is kicking in \$10,000 in advertising, which works out to 36 30 second ad spots and other promotions. In return they will get 4 VIP tickets. This agreement is between StarFM and Hope Brewing Company.

Ali motioned that the Chamber give StarFM 4 VIP tickets for the 36 30 second ad spots and other promotions. Seconded by Scott. Carried.

Scott motioned that a vote be done by email after the menus have been emailed out and compared.

Hunter Creek Kiosk

We were to farm it out and we get paid a stipend. It is too big of a money maker to sit unused. Glen gave a bit of history of the kiosk at the rest area. Advertising used to be \$10 per year. Should be \$200 now a days. We had discussed this in June. Rudy was taking the lead. Nothing has been heard regarding this. Deferred to the next meeting.

Alba asked more questions and offered to network with some of her clients who may be interested in taking this on.

Hans then gave even more information regarding the history and suggested the Chamber go out and talk to sign companies to see if they would like to manage it with a percentage going back to the Chamber.

Ali suggested we revisit this next month.

Welcome to Hope sign

Nothing has been heard. Glen will contact the Ministry of Highways in October. Glen gave some history as to the sign. It is not worth our time or money to refresh the existing sign. We are still trying to figure out who owns it.

Selling some Chainsaw Carvings

Victor and Pauline submitted some information regarding the carvings which was included in the meeting package. Victor suggests we try to sell them in Alberta and pay the freight charges. These carvings won't be used by the District of Hope as they are pretty fragile. They would be better in a building. We could possibly hold a raffle. We can put them up on our website. We will see where else we

can put them up for sale. Ali suggested someone contact Victor and find out what Chetwynd does with theirs. Alba suggested Linden event, but they are too big.

Hope Visitor Centre RFP

Glen did some research and found that other chambers have found that running a visitor centre is not a money maker for them. Glen was interested in doing the RFP as it would allow us to hire an executive director. It is rumored that AdvantageHope will be going for the contract. Scott mentioned that he has not heard any plans from AdvantageHope regarding this. He does feel that this would be a savings for the District since they fund both AdvantageHope and the Visitor Centre. Glen is concerned that it won't make money for anyone. However, the chamber had made money at this visitor centre in the past. Cathy discussed selling merchandise and souvenirs in there, which would bring in more money. Size is an issue though. BC Ferries was brought up as they have great merchandise in a small space. They have a great merchandizer to keep people buying. It could be a money maker if done right. A private sponsor could be brought in, but may not be allowed by the BC Government.

Should we continue to pursue this?

Scott doesn't think this is a good time to take this on. Ali is refraining from commenting as she is working with AdvantageHope and stepped out. Ruby suggested that we need a solid base and that there is no room for error, and that a new board is coming on in October and that we need to do a plan. Deb suggested we create a business plan. Stephen wanted more information.

Shanon will look into it and determine if it is doable. Will discuss it at a special meeting after the AGM.

Ali came back to the meeting.

Wood for Carvings

New board will have to determine if we should go ahead with the chainsaw carving competition next year. We got a lot of wood donated to us. Scott gave some history as to how we got the wood. Tri West Contracting and Jim Lasser went and picked up the logs and are storing it for us. This wood is great for speed carvings. Scott motioned that we give Tri West a membership in the Chamber. Ali seconded. Glen suggested we ask Joe's for a \$50 gift certificate for Mr Duggan, who donated the wood.

Trans Mountain/Kinder Morgan

They are gearing up to twin their pipeline if approved. They would be in Hope for 6 to 8 weeks. There are opportunities for businesses to make money. They will give a presentation on how businesses can make money. This will happen on October 21. The Chilliwack Chamber is also sponsoring a presentation and will help us promote our event.

Meet & Greet

AdvantageHope would like to do one at Joe's on Tuesday October 22, 6 to 8 pm.

Passport to Christmas

Glen read some highlights from Pattie email that was in the meeting package. Our cost was 625 for prizes and self-inking stamps. More discussion ensued.

Moonlight Madness – piggyback with Winter Carnival. If businesses want to be open, great.

AGM

AGM will be on October 9, 7:30 to 9 pm at Free Rein and a short meeting afterwards to discuss the Visitor Centre RFP. Ali suggested we have a summary of the year. No new business, just keep it to getting the new board. Present how far we got with projects and have the new board continue. We will need to have a person to spearhead each project/portfolio. Will have snacks.

Water Wealth Project

These are the folks that slammed Nestle. The provincial government is in charge of natural resources and that is what it is. They want to speak to the Chamber about water. Scott said that they are political and we should not get involved. We don't want to align ourselves with them. Ruby agreed.

Motion to adjourn: Ruby.