

Digby and Area Board of Trade
Minutes of General Meeting
Thursday, April 19 2018
NSCC Digby Learning Centre 6:00 pm

Members Present: Karen Enright, Kevin Ellis, Wendy Vissers, David Cvet, Crysti Popowich,, Michael Carty, Nina Barnaby, Rick Foote, Ken Flett, Julie MacLean, Peter James, Edwin Chisholm, Beth Earle, Ron Parks, Brendan Enright and Linda Weir, Recording Secretary

New Members: Christopher Thibodeau - CövenHöven Distillery, Sandy Cove
Dean Kenley - Fundy Complex, Digby

Guests: Mayor Ben Cleveland, Town of Digby

Regrets: Linda Graham, Dan Harvey,

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm with Karen Enright in the chair.

Approval of the Agenda – Chair called for additions to the agenda. Chair added First Responders Dinner under New Business. Hearing no further changes, Chair called for adoption of agenda

Michael Carty moved to adopt the agenda for April 19 2018. Seconded by Julie MacLean

Approval of Minutes –March 15, 2018 Chair called for errors or omissions. Hearing no errors or omissions. Chair called for approval of the minutes as circulated.

Rick Foote moved to adopt the minutes March 15, 2018. Seconded by Wendy Vissers. Motion carried.

Business Arising From the Minutes:

- AWESOME Digby - Karen reported First Meeting of Awesome Digby was held - Nina Barnaby, Ashley Roberts, and Karen Enright participated. Anticipate a panel type presentation in May at NSCC. Hope to have 15-30 trustees join. Have changed the format slightly from Annapolis Royal's - half the money - \$200/year, can be teams of 1 - 10 people. All the team can attend, but will only have 1 vote. Will start out with meeting every second month to give people a breather and chance to get their pitches together. Proposals go to all the trustees and they vote on the top 3 who will get the opportunity to make their pitch. One winner each pitching session. 100% of the money given out over the year.
- Mission Statement - David Cvet presented the current Mission Statement and put forth the new Statement "To Champion the interests of our business community through networking, facilitating economic development, and supporting business" Copy was sent out to members earlier for response. Discussion and agreed it was more inviting than old statement.
Julie MacLean moved to adopt the new Mission Statement as presented. Seconded by Edwin Chisholm. All in Favour. Motion Carried.
- Newsletter - Featured Member Rick Foote in April newsletter. Rick thanked for his story. Great Job. Michael Carty Photography will be the featured member for May. Please contact Wendy Vissers if you would like to feature your business in upcoming newsletters.
- Business Awards Ceremony - Nominations are needed. 10 categories. Guest Speaker in the works. Ad going to newspaper - Clare Shopper - Board's 120th anniversary year. Anyone who would like to help, let Kevin know -link is on the website for nominations.
- EDCE conference in Halifax - Kevin attended and gave brief overview of the conference - 200 attendees 30-40 exhibitors, business leaders, government, start up groups seem to make the bulk of the groups. Interesting speakers. Place with a lot of info if you have an idea and are ready to start something., great networking opportunities. Go to website for next year's event.

- Digby Port Days 2018 - Kevin commented on the success of past Port Days events and suggested it is something that we should jump on again. Port is under-utilized. Mayor advised it is on the agenda for the Town's May meeting. Edwin advised the port is in the process of new initiative and Port Days would be a good way to get the information out. Town of Digby interested.

New Business

Bear Island - Mayor Ben Cleveland on Bear Island. Outlined the history of Bear Island, which has been under trustee. In 1944, island was purchased by Dave Landers in tax sale and he left in trust to Mayor, Town of Digby, President of the Board of Trade and Chairman of the School Board for use as a playground by growing boys in Digby and area, Cornwallis, sea cadets and other boys' organized groups. The Town has been working through information with their lawyer. Town is contacting all of the trustees for interest, and to see if they are willing to stay on as a trustee. There will be responsibilities as a trustee. Asked if Board would like the town to find out what the responsibilities are, or do own research. Discussion followed. Town is moving ahead to discuss further with their lawyer to advise responsibilities, they are also talking to the Deputy Minister with regards to the School Board and discussion with other groups and will come back to the Board. Beth Early suggested the town provide info through their attorney and this information to the Board. Karen will send out a copy of the information findings to members to review. Additional discussion.

- First Responders Dinner - May 31, at Digby Pines Letter has been received requesting a donation or sponsor from the Board for this event. Tickets \$250 Discussion followed on Board's past ruling on donations and this event.

Motion: Peter James moved to support the event. Seconded by Wendy Vissers. 2 for and 15 against. Motion defeated.

Correspondence /Emails

- NSBI Achievement Awards - Gilles Babin of their office has emailed and advised they have changed the way they accept nominations for provincial export awards. Innovative won our award at 2017 Business Award and is our area rep for the NSBI Achievement Awards this year. Argue the change should not go into effect until NSBI awards next year, as Innovative have been told they the rep from this area, not fair to open to other nominations now. Karen will look into it and see if they can change their format for this year

Announcements -

- Michael Carty announced he has a new studio in Oakdene Centre, Bear River. Open House on Wed April 25 from 4-8. All welcome. He will also be teaching photography course starting May 15 at NSCC.
- New Member Covenhoven Distillery - Chris Thiboeau spoke on the company's history, name and the distillery business based in Sandy Cove.
- Fundy Complex - new member this month.

Adjournment – Adjourned Beth Earle

Next Meeting - May 17 noon meeting.