



MERRICKVILLE-WOLFORD
& DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Draft Minutes

Tuesday, May 9 2023

6pm Library Meeting Room

Welcome & Call to Order 6:10pm
Present: Yves Grandmaitre, Trevor Johnson, Pam Watts, Chantal Roulston
Council Liaison: Anne Barr

Approval of Agenda
Approved as submitted

Declaration of Pecuniary Interests
None noted

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting : [February 14, 2023 Draft Minutes](#)
Motion to accept as submitted Chantal, seconded Pam Carried

Council Liaison:

- Anne joined the meeting as unofficial liaison pending final appointment by Council

Business Arising/Action Items

- Community Grant Applications - Update/Status
 - [Bike Proposal](#)
Funding request not approved. Alternate suggestion by Council was to move the ball diamond bike rack to Merrickville Square which has now been done. This to assess use. Anne indicated that if further racks needed there may be some available from other locations
 - Entrance Signs
 - Ownership Yves verbally shared information provided by Jane Graham re documents showing that the Municipality had applied for the grants for the signs during her time on Council. Yves will provide documents provided by Jane to Anne for further review. (done). Since the 2023 Community Grant for signs was not accepted, discussion ensued re if any EcDev funds might be available. Anne suggest that Chamber send a letter to this effect.
ACTION: Send letter to Village asking for funds to support updating entrance signs
 - Directional sign to Historic Downtown Core
Deferred
- Summer Tourism Ambassador - Update/Status: Yves, Pam
ACTION No updates. Pam will call to follow up
- 2 Washrooms secured for May 6 Village Garage Sale
Done
- Constant Contact Mailing Software -

- Canva Account: Kate
Deferred
- Invoicing from Constant Contact: Pam
ACTION Pam doing follow up
- Chez 106 Feedback
 - no response to voice mail or message sent to their website email

New Business

- Grant Match - Update: Yves/Sally
ACTION : Yves to follow up with Grant Match re status of new search engine
 - Garbage Cans: Discussion around poor condition of garbage cans around town. Anne suggest sending letter to Village
ACTION: Letter to be sent to CAO asking that badly rusted cans get replaced with something appropriate to the downtown.
- Regional Tourism Strategy - Update from United Counties: Yves
ACTION: Yves to follow up re status
- [Local Food Discovery Booklet](#)-Fundraising initiative
No new information
- RTO 9 Regional Tourism organization - status of request for input
A walkabout with photographer is planned for the 26th. Photos to be used in the RTO9 database to promote the area.
ACTION: Yves will coordinate
- Additional washrooms for Garage sale day
See Business arising
- Business and Volunteer Awards
Deferred
- Submission of application to CBC 'Still Standing" show for next season: Yves
Deferred

Correspondence

From Municipality indicating that both applications were not selected for a grant.

Committee Reports

- Membership: Rob
 - 2023 Renewal Status
Brief discussion. More to come upon Robs return
- Communications/Marketing & Promotion: Kate
 - Website
 - update with new members
 - Social Media Activities
 - stats on Promotion of May 6 Village Garage Sale , Mothers' Day, Volunteer Week, other
Garage sale was well promoted.
 - Marketing Activities
 - MAG Brochure (\$80.00)
Paid
 - Le Boat and Preferred Partnering Businesses
Yves will provide Shop Local brochures to Le Boat (done) until maps are ready
 - RTO-9 Rep for Southeastern Ontario - request assistance from EDO - United Counties to provide content
See new business

- Networking & Partnership: Sally
 - Business Welcome to new Residents
Deferred
 - Farm to Fork Map
Deferred

- Events: Chantal
 - June Social
Set for June 22nd. Yves tabled motion to approve \$200 for food. Pam seconds.
Carried
Discussion re how to better foster B2B better cooperation and support and B2C to get visitor feedback. Yves mentions the tourism survey done in 2018. Anne will check with Municipality re availability. (Done. Anne has shared. Will be circulated)

- Map:
 - in the process of securing ad sponsorship of 26 spaces
 - timeline is May 19
 - pricing: single \$115 and double \$210

Streetscaping Working Group - Lisa/Robyn E/Robyn F/Rose Decatur/Audrey Bridge

- Tote Bag Sales
 - MAG Spring Fling - 12 bags sold
No updates as to how many sold so far
Pam will send an invoice to The Village Bean and McGarrigles for bags that they will resell
- Lamp Post Project
Update
Discussion re ownership of new posts. Since they will be replacing the existing Chamber wooden posts do they remain Chamber responsibility or since the grant has been transferred to the Municipality and the Municipality is paying for the rest of the project are they transferred to the Municipality. Anne will inquire and clarify the position of the Village at a future meeting
- Seasonal Decorating Plans
For both events below the Chamber posts will be decorated/wrapped
 - Canada Day
 - Pride Week
 - other...

Administration/Governance:

- Update to Letters Patent
Deferred

Treasurer Report : Pam

- Finance Report
Report accepted Motion by Pam, seconded by Chantal Carried
- CRA Update

9. Date of Next Meeting: June 13, 2023 (the question was raised re meetings in July and August. To be discussed at the June meeting)

10. Adjournment 7:30pm