*“Building bridges to better business in Augusta, Edwardsburgh/Cardinal and Prescott.”*

Chairperson: President Bonnie Pidgeon-Cougler

Board Members Present: Andrea Derochie, Deb Coles, Tim MacKay, Blinda Campbell, Rod Palmer, Lisa Temple, Joe Martelle, Lynda Joanisse

Board Members Absent: Ben Quenneville

Regrets: Gaurie Shankar

In Attendance: Jeff Shaver – Augusta Township, Pat Sayeau – Edwardsburgh/Cardinal Township, Heather Lawless - GCFDC

**Welcome and Call to Order** – President Bonnie Pidgeon-Cougler

Bonnie called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. and confirmed that there was a quorum.

**Introduction of Guests:** none

**Approval of May’s Agenda**

**Moved by Tim MacKay**

***To Approve May’s Agenda***

**Seconded by Lisa Temple Motion Carried**

**Approval of April’s Minutes**

**Moved by Tim MacKay**

***To Approve April’s Meeting Minutes***

**Seconded by Blinda Campbell Motion Carried**

**President’s Greetings & Report** – President Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler

Bonnie attended the Budget 2019 – Protecting What Matters Most Event that was held in Brockville and sponsored by the Brockville and District Chamber of Commerce, the 1000 Islands Gananoque Chamber of Commerce, the North Grenville Chamber of Commerce as well as our chamber. She commented that the Chamber is trying to rotate their monthly meeting locations and she thanked the Prescott Golf Club for hosting us this month.

**Liaison Highlight Reports (5 minutes each)**

* **BIA**

Although there was nobody present from the BIA, Bonnie noted that at the last meeting Sandra Lawn gave an extensive report thanking the South Grenville Chamber of Commerce for everything they have done. She commented that Sandra has always kept us very connected with the BIA and that has been appreciated.

* **GCFDC**

Heather Lawless talked about the Women’s Networking Event that is taking place on Tuesday, May 14 at CSE Consulting in Prescott. This is an opportunity for women entrepreneurs to learn about PARO Peer Lending Circles.

* **Town of Prescott** – No Report
* **Augusta Township**

Jeff Shaver reported that Augusta had their first Business to Business Meeting on May 2 in Maynard with guest speaker Steve Polite. Turnout was great. The next meeting is on June 20 in Roebuck at 6:30 with guest speaker Chris McCorkell.

* **Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal**

The owner of Flying Canoe Cider has purchased a house in Spencerville and is looking for a building to relocate his manufacturing business from Ottawa to Spencerville.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Deborah Coles

Debbie reported that most of the membership fees have been paid. The major expense for last month was Chamber Master.

**Moved by Deb Coles**

***To Accept Treasurer’s report as presented***

**Seconded by Rod Palmer Motion Carried**

**Secretary’s Report**

Joan noted that she has received a couple of phone calls about companies sending their membership application on line. Andrea explained what the process is once the membership is received on line.

**General Business:**

Bonnie commented that every year, the South Grenville Chamber of Commerce awards a bursary for $300.00 to a student at South Grenville District High School. This is presented during the commencement ceremony.

**Moved by Bonnie-Pidgeon-Cougler**

To award a $300.00 bursary to a student at South Grenville District High School

**Seconded by Tim MacKay**

The Bluegrass Festival is looking for a $300.00 donation to their event. Although the South Grenville Chamber of Commerce has supported this event in the past, the committee would like some clarification around what benefits the chamber would receive (ie. advertising). It was suggested that we invite a representative from this festival to the next meeting. Bonnie said that the chamber should have an application that organizations need to complete if they are asking for money for an event. Bonnie suggested that the HR Committee look at this.

**Committee Reports:**

1. Membership

**Moved by Andrea Derochie**

Motion on the table to accept Greenergy, The Volunteer Centre of St. Lawrence Rideau and the Verandah as members to the South Grenville Chamber of Commerce

**Seconded by Tim MacKay Motion Carried**

Andrea has been working with Chamber Master to update the website. There are going to be many improvements. Some of these improvements include businesses going into the website and updating their own contact information. There will also be an opportunity for businesses to advertise on the website. It has been a huge undertaking and Andrea believes that it will be completed by the end of May.

1. HR Committee – no report
2. Marketing and Communication

The Marketing and Communication Committee has been meeting every Monday for the past couple of months. Blinda reported that their plan is to have at least one event per month. These events are planned for the next quarter.

June 20 - Networking BBQ – Dewar’s Inn

July 26 - Charlie McFarlane Golf Tournament

August - Website Launch

September – Elections Event

October - Business After 5

November – Annual Awards Dinner

December – Christmas Luncheon

Blinda gave a brief update on the golf tournament which included prices, entertainment and early bird special etc. They are going to partner with the charity Jumpstart this year. This charity focuses on children and that was Charlie McFarlane’s main focus.

**Moved by Tim MacKay**

Motion to proceed with the Charlie McFarlane Golf Tournament as presented.

**Seconded by Bonnie Pidgeon-Cougler**

**Closing Remarks** – President Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler

There has been a lot of work going on among the Chamber. It was decided that there should be a Director’s Meeting in June besides the Networking BBQ.

 The next Director’s Meting is:

**June 24 at 8:00 a.m. at Bridgeview Restaurant in Johnstown.**

**Moved by Andrea Derochie**

To adjourn the South Grenville Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors’ Meeting on May 13, 2019

Meeting adjourned 8:45 a.m.