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

**Chairperson:** Bonnie Pidgeon-Cougler

**Board Members Present:** Deb Coles, Tim MacKay, Joe Martelle, Andrea Derochie, Rod Palmer, Lynda Joanisse

**Board Members Absent:** Lisa Temple, Blinda Campbell, Ben Quenneville,

**In Attendance:** Heather Lawless (GCFDC), Dana Valentyne (Town of Prescott), Joyce Knapp (Ashley’s Homestore),

**Welcome and Call to Orde****r**

President Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed a quorum.

**Introduction of Guests**

Ann McLaughlin from The Ceremony Company was guest at the meeting.

**Approval of February’s Minutes**

***There were no meeting minutes to report for February. Networking meeting only.***

**Approval of March’s Agenda**

**Moved by Tim MacKay**

***To Approve March’s Agenda***

**Seconded by Andrea Derochie Motion Carried**

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

-Bonnie presented Certificates of Appreciation to board members

-Townships, CSE, GCFDC collaboration with Town for welcoming new businesses

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

* BIA
* Call for board nominations went out and are closed – should be announced shortly
* GCFDC
* A lot of inquiries re: grants
* Replacement gov’t program – new minimum size of $50K
* Town of Prescott
* Tourism meeting last week – SE Ontario Waterway
* Brockville, Chambers, attraction, accommodations, etc. owners. Collaboration on increasing tourism in area
* Compile data and share
* Quick fact sheet/package on Prescott being compiled/updated
* More communication going forward
* Supporting current businesses
* Prescott/Ogdensburg ferry (walk/cycle) – feasibility study almost complete
* Possible pilot period this summer (coinciding with events in community)
* Augusta Township – no report
* Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal – no report

**Treasurer’s Report** – Deborah Coles

**Moved by Deb Coles**

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

**Seconded by Tim Mackay Motion Carried**

**General Business:**

September 27th – collaboration with Brockville Chamber on All Candidates Debate at the Brockville Arts Centre for upcoming Federal Election

**Committee Reports:**

1. Memberships

-Andrea has partnered with Chamber Master on website improvements – member to member discounts, member direct updates, advertising for members on site, tracking traffic on site.

**Moved by Andrea Derochie**

A motion to spend money on Chamber Master

**Seconded by Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler Motion Carried**

1. HR Committee

Needed one more person on the HR Committee. Tim has agreed to join this committee.

1. Finance Committee – Deb, Andrea, Blinda
2. Marketing and Communication Committee – Dana, Lynda, Joe, Ann (from The Ceremony)

**Closing Remarks** – President Bonnie Pidgeon Cougler

Workshop offer – 1 this year?

BBQ in July – Dewar’s Inn?

Rod Palmer – CSE Event – draw for $50.00 gift card from Giant Tiger. Draw to be made on Monday before Easter (April 15th) at Giant Tiger Store. Posters to be put up.

**Next meeting: Thursday, April 18, 2019 at North Star Pub and Eatery (formerly Woody’s) 8575 Cty Rd. 15, North Augusta at noon**