

Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce
General Meeting
Tuesday, February 13th, 2018
MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order Meeting called to order @ 12:12 by Cheryl O'Brien
In Attendance- Cheryl O'Brien, Kayla McMillan, Gerry Vigeant, Steve Pedersen, Linda Harder, Rick Harder, Dave Kalles, Chris Irvin, Ray Dyck, Kathy Dyck, John Devries, Dan Reams, Jim Holt, Janny Skelton, Patti McLeod, Dick Behr, Gerry Amann, Peter Turner and Tiffany Lund

Adoption of Agenda

- Additions to Agenda- 3) Dissolution from Federal Board of Trade 9) Renewable Energy Letter
10) Spring Fling 11) Werner Schneeberger Retirement
- Amendment to Agenda- Added #3 as old business and #9, #10, & #11 under new business
- Adoption of Meeting Agenda- *Motioned by Rick, seconded by Kathy. Motion carried.*
- Adoption of January Meeting Minutes- *Motioned by Jenny, seconded by Gerry V. Motion carried.*

Correspondences

Guest Speaker- Peter Turner, YCC President

- YCC is holding their Annual General Meeting on May 13th, 2018 in Dawson City. All members are invited to attend.
- YCC has worked with WCB to get all Yukon business members a rebate for the 3rd consecutive year. They will continue to go after this rebate so long as it is justified.
- YCC has hired Julie DeFreshne as their research analyst. Funding was obtained by CANOR to hire her but funding will end March 31st. YCC will try to find new funding and may ask for a letter of support from WLCC. Julie has worked on research for the Cannabis Legislature, Energy, and Carbon Tax, among other topics of interest.
- YCC has 5 policy committees including the Transport & Infrastructure Committee and the Energy Committee, who has also been a Low Carbon steering committee which has been working with YG on how to spend green energy dollars. WLCC members are encouraged to join any committee of interest to them.
- Approximately 50 Canadian Chamber members visited Whitehorse in 2017. Members of YCC are attending the Canadian Chamber AGM in Winnipeg in 2018. YCC hopes to host a future Canadian Chamber AGM as one has never been held in the northern territories and such an event would bring many benefits to the economy.
- Opportunities North will be hosted in Whitehorse in October of 2018. YCC seeking input on issues that impact Northern Businesses.
- YCC is hosting the Business Continuity Conference in Whitehorse on March 15th. YG has provided funding for community members, to help cover travel expenses. A maximum of \$1500.00 is available to each Chamber group with a maximum of \$300.00 per person. Conference has speakers talking about how businesses can prepare, respond and rebound from disastrous, unexpected situations.
- An investment consultant (YCC member) would like to come to Watson Lake to present if WLCC members are interested. Peter left information folders for anyone interested.
- Jim suggests that YCC use their Research Analyst to research more on the pro's and con's of green energy.

Old Business

1) Financial Report

- No financial report available but account balances provided for member's information.

2) Policeman's Ball and Chamber Gala recap

- Total income \$5400.00 which is lower than past years. This is due to less attendees, less money spent on auction items and the extra expense of having a band.
- Good feedback was received from those who attended. People loved the band.
- WLCC makes annual donations to Watson Lake Minor Hockey, from the proceeds of the auctioned NHL player jerseys, as well as a donation to the Slain Police Officer's Fund because of the RCMP partnership for the event.

Motion 2.1- to donate \$250.00 to Watson Lake Minor Hockey and \$250.00 to the Slain Police Officer's Fund motioned by Chris, seconded by Jenny. Motion carried.

3) Dissolution for Federal Board of Trade

- A resolution was passed by WLCC last year to dissolve our membership with the Federal Board of Trade. Documentation was sent to have this dissolved but the documentation was never received, so we are not in good standing with Yukon Societies.
- Rick has reached out to the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce as they have gone through the same situation. Whitehorse Chamber President, Rick Karp, as advised Rick that a special meeting is required, to pass a new resolution. Rick Karp is sending Rick instructions on how to complete the paperwork and where it needs to be send.
- Cheryl will contact the Minister of Community Services to see if anything can be done to get our Society in good standing as this issue is affecting our ability to get our Economic Development funding.

New Business

4) Business Continuity Conference

- Conference details discussed in Peter Turner's report. Any WLCC members who are interested in attending can email Tiffany for information on funding available.

5) Economic Development Conference

- Yukon Economic Development Conference is being held in Watson Lake April 17th-19th. WLCC has been asked to host an event on the evening of the 18th. Committee of Cheryl, Chris and Kayla will start organizing. WLCC also asked to present to conference attendees on the morning of the 19th. Idea's for our event- bowling, silent auction, casino.

6) Yukon Tourism Development Strategy Engagement Meeting

- Guest speakers at our March General Meeting. Tourism Dev. Strategy Engagement committee has also asked for a partnership with WLCC for the public meeting on the evening of March 13th. WLCC will help advertise.

7) Electoral Boundaries Meeting

- Public meeting with Yukon Electoral Boundaries Commission is March 10th. WLCC reached out to request meeting and have been asked to present. Members asked to send in questions and concerns for this meeting. Some topics for discussion include transportation, population, economic differences and cultural connection.

8) Talking Together

- Survey has been sent to members. It has been created by the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce in partnership with YG to engage Yukoners to discuss ways that they would like to receive information and communication.

9) Renewable Energy Letter

- WLCC sent a letter to Atco Electric regarding WLCC's support of green energy solutions. WLCC would like to take it a step further and ask YG what their long term goals are for green energy solutions and if there are strategies in place for the different communities in the Yukon. WLCC would like job creation to be a priority when funding is given for green energy initiatives and would like to ask for community engagement before funds are administered. Peter asks that WLCC send our letter to YCC as well.

10) Spring Fling

- Tiffany will email Ruth to see if she will head the organizing committee so planning can get underway.

11) Werner Schneeberger Retirement

- WLCC will present Werner with a plaque at March General Meeting to thank for his years of business commitment in the community.
Motion 2.2 to purchase plaque motioned by Chris, seconded by Dan. Motion carried.

Reports around Town

Town of Watson Lake- Chris Irvin

- 2nd reading of the Water/Sewer by-law has been amended. Seeking public input.
- Public Meeting planned for March to discuss OCP and budget. WLCC used to meet with TOWL to discuss budget recommendations. Chris will talk to Council to see if that is something that they would like to start doing again.
- TOWL has been in discussions with YG about available lots/land but have not had a lot of communication back from YG about the matter.

WL Ski Club- Jenny Skelton

- Food Fair was slower this year with a much lower turn out than previous years.
- Yukon Cup is being held at Mount Maichen March 10th and 11th.
- Free Style Clinic being held March 17th.
- New CDF project- new tiller bar for groomer.

Yukon College- Kayla McMillan

- Upcoming courses- OFA, PAL, BC Flagging, Class 1 and Class 3 drivers.
- Space available in ASIST course.
- Didn't get the registration needed to hold the Office Admin. Course but hope to try again in the Fall.

Outdoor Rec. Club- Kathy Dyck

- Trap shoot- March 3rd.
- Kiki Drag Races were very successful

Meeting Adjourned at 1:24pm

