

**Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce**  
**General Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 10th, 2018**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**Call to Order** Meeting called to order @ 12:09 by Rick Harder  
In Attendance- Rick Harder, Ruth Wilkinson, Gerry Vigeant, Jenny Skelton, Linda Harder, Gord Sundby, Cindy Sundby, Gerry Amann, Dianne Amann, George Morgan, Dave Kalles, Kent Langley, Colleen Craft, Lorelee Johnstone, Hazel Ireland, Kathy Vigeant, Ray Dyck, Kathy Dyck, Steve Pederson, Cheryl O'Brien, Chris Irvin and Tiffany Lund.

**Adoption of Agenda**

- Adoption of Meeting Agenda with an addition #7) Immigration- *Motioned by Gerry, seconded by Gord. Motion carried.*
- Adoption of March Meeting Minutes- *Motioned by Jenny, seconded by Ruth. Motion carried.*

**Correspondences- N/A**

**Guest Speaker- Lorelee Johnstone, Coeur Mining Inc.**

- Lorelee transitioned over to Coeur Mining Inc. from JDS Silvertip Mining in November 2017 when Coeur Mining took ownership. She is head of community relationships and permitting.
- JDS Silvertip Mining did the permitting and construction of the mine. Coeur Mining is now at operational stage and are product testing their ore with a few potential clients.
- Coeur Mining is in the process of applying through Environment BC, to amend permitting, to allow for year-round operation of the mine.
- Jobs have been posted locally and local hires have already taken place.
- Still considering options for shipment of product but Stewart, BC is looking like a good option.

**Old Business**

**1) Financial Report**

- Financial Report held on file. Current WLCC account balance of \$10,965.72

**2) Economic Development Conference**

- Cheryl asking for Chamber member volunteers to help with WLCC Wine and Dine at the NLC on April 18<sup>th</sup> and at the Rec Centre later that evening to help run the bar, games night and dinner.
- WLCC also setting up a Trade Show table which Rick will head.
- WLCC invited to attend a Biomass presentation in Teslin April 18<sup>th</sup> in the morning.
- WLCC will also give a quick presentation on our initiatives and role in the community.

**3) Spring Fling**

- Committee has set date of May 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Artists are being contacted and cook-off theme this year is Mexican. Cook-off categories are 1) Mexican Dip (salsa, guacamole or pico de gallo) 2) Tortilla Soup 3) Enchiladas 4) Dessert Bars

## **New Business**

### **4) LFN Acknowledgement**

- *Motion 4.1*- WLCC will publish a press release in the Yukon News and Whitehorse Star, to acknowledge and congratulate LFN on their recent accomplishment of getting out of 3<sup>rd</sup> party management. *Motioned by Kathy V., seconded by Jenny. Motion carried.*

### **5) Social Enterprise Opportunity for Yukon Communities**

- Tiffany and Cheryl will look further into what types of social enterprise projects this organization has done in the past to give the WLCC members a better idea of what opportunities we could potentially start in community.

### **6) Recap- Meeting with Minister Streicker and Minister Mostyn**

- WLCC members met with Minister Streicker and Minister Mostyn to discuss several questions and/or concerns including:
  - Northern Experience component for YG contracts- value to community rather than based on bid amount.
  - Vegetation control along highway- 2018 budget has tripled since last year.
  - Concern around conflict of interest with YG contracts- will get back to WLCC with further information.
  - EMS concerns- Supervisor position will be extended but supervisor still not living in Watson Lake. YG will continue to work with WLCC to improve EMS in Watson Lake.
  - Maintenance of highway pullouts and outhouses.
  - Cannabis legislation.
  - Yukon Housing/Staff housing and lot availability.
- WLCC will send a follow up letter outlining discussions and to follow up on concerns raised.

### **7) Immigration**

- Sophie from Yukon Immigration is coming to Watson Lake for the Economic Development Conference and would like to speak with business owners about the Foreign Workers program and the Business Nominee program (for business owners selling to foreign buyers).

## **Reports around Town**

### **Town of Watson Lake- Cam Lockwood**

- TOWL also met with Minister Streicker and Minister Mostyn. Main topics of discussion were housing/lot availability and financial assistance to help cover operational costs to run the water treatment facility.
- Budget has been passed- projected to spend \$700k. TOWL still looking for solutions to reduce costs and increase cash flow.
- Looking at implementing a hotel levy.
- May implement a 'grant in lieu' for businesses who operate locally.

### **WL Ski Club- Jenny Skelton**

- Mount Maichen had a great season. Season recap in the Town Crier.

**Yukon College- Jenny Skelton**

- Yukon College will be closing for the summer at the end of May.

**Meeting Adjourned at 1:04pm**