

December 3, 2015
Township of Strong Municipal Office

Present: Sundridge – Don Richardson
Strong –
South River – Sharon Smith
Machar – Lynda Carleton
Joly – Chris Nicholson
Business Reps – Jennifer Farquhar, Luke Preston (5:36 pm)
Community Resource Rep –
MNDM – Carole Mantha
FedNor – Ron Begin

Absent: Les Blackwell, Gary McLaren, Merlyn Snow

Guests: Megan Goulais, Emilio Foffano, Willy Hollett

Delegates: Cyndi Culbert & Jim Shedden – Business Consideration
Tiffany Elliott & Randie Doornink – EPS Literacy Council

Staff Present: Kim Dunnett – Recording Secretary
John Santarossa – Interim EDO

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Vice Chair Don Richardson.

Delegations:

Cyndi Culbert and Jim Shedden gave a presentation on a local property they would like to develop into a multi-use year round venue. Cyndi explained that the venue would be used to host many events such as; weddings, corporate events, trade shows, celebrations, training sessions, arts & culture and musical events, as well as many other options. The location is private, but close to town and will be a benefit to many other businesses in the area. Cyndi and Jim asked the group in their opinion would this type of venue would be favorable for the area. The group responded and thought it would be definitely be a benefit and well received. The reason for attending the meeting was to see if there were any funding opportunities for this type of business. The reps from MNDM and FedNor will follow up with Cyndi and Jim regarding funding.

Randie Doornink and Tiffany Elliott attended to present the adult literacy program offered in three locations Powassan, South River and Burk's Falls. Randie explained that they are a non-profit charitable program, primarily funded by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, but also rely on donations from the community

members or fund raising campaigns. The literacy program offers various options for adults who wish to upgrade their skills, and the program has a flexible schedule. The program is well attended and has a waiting list. Education has become more necessary ,as the job market has become highly competitive. In 2015 the program acquired an intern, which has allowed for other staff to meet demands. Randie stated the budget for the three locations is \$150,000.00 and that 2015 may be in a deficit. CAEDA members thanked the Literacy Council for their dedication and excellent work. Education is the key to success.

General Discussion:

MNDM Update: Carole Mantha gave a brief update on the BR&E project. The group is working hard to implement the project. So far there has been three successful launches and two volunteer trainings. Carole stated that CAEDA has already began their survey interviews.

FedNor Update: Ron Begin stated that he is still awaiting the decision on the CIINO application, but has a very positive outlook in regards to the application.

Business Rep Report: Luke Preston and Jennifer Farquhar announced that everyone is welcome to attend the Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce Christmas Social at the Northern Roadhouse on Monday, December 7, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

EDO Report: John Santarossa gave a report stating he attended the SMART session in Huntsville on Thursday morning for a breakfast meeting. The funding is targeted to manufacturing business under 500 employees. If the group has a business in mind John asked that they contact him for more information. John updated the committee on the BR&E process and what has been accomplished so far. There will be an additional volunteer training session held in December, interested volunteers are asked to contact Carole Mantha or Dave Gray.

Government-regulated Production Facilities: Deferred until next meeting. However noted that if a resolution is drafted that it be circulated back to the five Councils first before it is put forward as a motion.

Update on Canadore College: Voucher for eBusiness: Deferred until next meeting.

Resolution: 2015-51

Moved by:

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby adopt the CAEDA Terms of Reference as amended.

Seconded by:

Deferred

Correspondence:

The group reviewed the FAB15 Financial Report submitted by the Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce. A brief review of the event was given and all inquiries were responded to. CAEDA appreciates all the hard work that everyone put into the FAB event to make it a success.

Adoption of Minutes:

Resolution: 2015-52

Moved by: Sharon Smith

Seconded by: Lynda Carleton

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby adopt the minutes of regular meeting of November 5, 2015, as circulated.

Carried

Approve CAEDA Expenses:

Resolution: 2015-53

Moved by: Chris Nicholson

Seconded by: Sharon Smith

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby approve expenses between November 6, 2015 and December 3, 2015 in the amount of \$1,916.53 and authorize the administrator to issue cheques for the same.

Carried

New Business: Willy Hollett from the Almaguin Highlands Chamber of Commerce introduced himself to CAEDA members. Willy announced that he is the new present for the Chamber.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Adjournment:

Resolution: 2015-54

Moved by: Sharon Smith

Seconded by: Lynda Carleton

Be it resolved that this committee does hereby adjourn at 6:30 pm until the next regular meeting January 7, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Strong Township Municipal Office, or at the call of the Chair.

Carried

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Chair, Les Blackwell

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Recording Secretary, Kim Dunnett