

**ATHABASCA DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**General Meeting**  
**Thursday, 01 September, 2005**  
**Greenspot Restaurant**

**APPROVED: 06 OCTOBER, 2005**

**Attending:** Frank Ponto, Maxine Speers, Ross Hunter, Trevor Martin, Joanne Peckham, Eileen Chamberlain, Michael Neville, Doug Topinka, Ty Hart, Cyndie Black, Dena Angus, JJ Nash, Jared Neithercut, Lorette Kisinski, Patti-Lynn Griffiths, Ida Edwards, Lesa Mueller-Schmaus, Brian Hall, Marg Wintonyk, Michelle Plante, Melody Wolansky, Murray Hales (Alberta Chamber of Commerce president elect)

1.0 **CALL TO ORDER:** President Ty Hart called the meeting to order and Members introduced themselves.

2.0 **AGENDA:** An item 8.2 Communities in Bloom report was added to the agenda.  
**MOVED by Eileen Chamberland, seconded by Frank Ponto, that the agenda be adopted as amended.**

**CARRIED.**

3.0 **MINUTES:** The minutes of the meeting of 04 August, 2005, were read by the secretary. There were three minor corrections to the minutes.

**MOVED by Michael Neville, seconded by Ty Hart that the minutes be approved as corrected.**

**CARRIED.**

**4.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

4.1 **Report on Meeting Time Survey** The consensus of the group was that the current meeting time was probable the best time for the most people.

4.2 **Membership Drive:** The membership report was presented. It was agreed that we need to emphasize that the Chamber is for the Athabasca District and NOT just the town. An ad to that effect and encouraging businesses to join should be put in the Advocate. Trevor and Peggy volunteered to assist with contacting business and encouraging them to join.

**ACTION: Michael**

4.3 **Community Photo:** Cyndie gave full credit for this project to Trevor. Trevor reported that everything was set to go that evening at 5:30. He was hoping for a turn out of 1,000 people.

5.0 **CORRESPONDENCE:** No correspondence was sent or received.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The report was not available.

## **6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

6.1 Presidents Report – Ty raised questions about attending the Canadian Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting in PEI. It was agreed that we would not send a representative this year.

6.2 Public Relations – Nothing to Report.

Membership: See above under Business arising.

6.3 Retail: Cyndie introduced Elizabeth as one of the new owners of McLeods True Value.

6.3.1 A meeting for the planning of Moonlight Madness is set for 15 September, at 8 am at the Greenspot. The first order of the day will be to set a firm date. Members are asked to come and attend and be prepared to decide on whether we should go with the last Thursday of November or the first Friday of December.

6.3.2 Welcome Neighbour: Cyndie reported that the packages are ready and are being distributed, however, there are additional items arriving. She would like to get the packages prepared and out earlier next year.

6.3.2.1 It was suggested that we put a notice about the Welcome Neighbour packages in the school newsletters.

**ACTION: Cyndie**

6.3.3 Canada Day – Nothing To Report.

6.4 Tourism: The group congratulated Frank on his new appointment and welcomed Iola Bartja who will be replacing him.

6.5 Maintenance – Nothing to report.

6.6 Social: Nothing to report

## **7.0 NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 Community Directory: It was noted that a Community Directory was being updated by Economic Development.

7.2 Dog Sled Races. Carried over to the next meeting.

7.3 Communities in Bloom: Ida Edwards reported that the contest attracted only one entry in only two of the three categories. She reported that the committee

will be awarding two \$50 first prizes and returning the rest of the money to the Chamber.

7.3.1 Ida also reported that the Committee will be sending 4 delegates to the National Awards Festivities in Saskatoon on the 20-24 September. Members may send info packages with Ida to the National Meeting.

7.3.2 Music Festival: Ida reported that there is interest in reviving some type of a Community music festival. An investigative meeting will be held on Sept 16<sup>th</sup> at the Rural Notes Music Studio at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will start with a pot luck supper.

8.0 **GUEST SPEAKER**: Murray Hales, the present elect of the Alberta Chamber of Commerce outlined some of the workings of our provincial group including:

- Policy development;
- Value added packages (a new one coming soon);
- AB Awards of Distinction;
- Political Action Day;
- Annual General Meeting (25-27 May in Leduc);
- Board Meetings (09 November in Airdrie);
- Dinner with the Deputy Ministers (in October);
- Assistance/Advice from the main office;
- Staff and volunteer training; and
- Chamber Staffing.

9.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

***MOVED by Joanne, seconded by Eileen that the meeting be adjourned.***

***CARRIED***

-----END OF MEETING-----