

## South Bruce Community & Business Association Serving the Municipality of South Bruce



South Bruce Business & Association March 14, 7 AM @ Harleys

Present : Les Nichols, Elaine Fischer, Jim Gowland, Leanne Martin, Kathy Evans, Mark Goetz, Joe Hoffarth, Dale Lougheed, Adam Ireland & Shirley Kuntz

Adam welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Treasurers report Elaine-- \$2800 membership fees, expenses to pay spreakers gift yet.

Membership report – Kathy 31 members so far and 2 adds for directory, had 72 members last year.

Want to start directory for April, deadline end of March for directory—going to send out emails and reminders

Saugeen Valley working with Gay Lea expansion in the future. New website assistance hired , would like are input

.Rural Economic Development Forum— Leanne Martin attended this conference visited arts cooking – food and history. Park blueberries – store front everything blueberries-- Sunshine Forum 23 types of pickles & asppargus Clinton Foodland for products locally. We have lots to offer also. Lemmington Heinz plant closing impact on the community, eye opener (tax impacts, job loss, supply chain affected, lost there identity.Municipality went to help Heinz plant , to help employers jobs, tomatoe growers and media.Highbury Canco has taken over and offered 250 jobs, looking beyond the effects of funding development 2.5 million. Municipality and business community stepped in to the plant to help out.

Blogging for the community, Twitter go to the local businesses and promote at the same time, Promoting through social media. The way of the future. Asset mapping –collected data and put into mapping system – sending us presentation links if interested, we can look in this. OMAFA lots of programs, Spruce the Bruce ( business funding also storefronts, Social Media in draft.

Adam thanked Leanne for her presentation. Jim comments on main street (Book cover in are book) Back Concessions sussecesful, main street needs a face lift, economic delvepment either best or first., new state of the art buildings " How do we dress up the cover of this book"

Hawks Nest June 21 Kincardine—our group help in anyway, starts at 6:30 . Elaine has 4 tickets, put out mass email again to the businesses.

New Business (a) Bionnovation Canada Annual Cluster Workshop March 30, 31 Motion by Jim- chair or someone else could go this, would be very good opportunity. Dale seconded

(b) Teeny Tiny Symposium- March 30 in Seely's Bay. Registration \$35.00 Suggested somebody from SBCBA and Tourism could go. Would pay mileage and registration. Shirley to talk to Mary Nichols on this, decided we did not want to drive through Toronto to get there.

(c) Petawawa Renewable Energy- Bio Mass- 10 sites in Ontario to set up site, burning energy (wood waste, sawmill, gasifeir) Dundalk right now. Waste heat, electricity and bio char our lines not big enough.

Mission Statement: The SBCBA is a group of community minded citizens dedicated to promotion and economic development within the Municipality of South Bruce.

(d) Huron County Economic Development Board Updates Dale attended this. Keynote speakers from Fredricton. 150 people at the meeting . Internet low cost and high speed, more ties to university and colleges, Bio ag centers want to turn things around. 2 year old program. Everone is ambassitor to there area just not in the media.

(e) Action Plan 2016 hard fast goals. Next meeting wants some deadlines—what we should do this year agricultural country wide.-- economical development office (county level) --South Bruce employees at Bruce Power – we have 102 employees/contractors working in Bruce Power facilities who list their residence as being in South Bruce.—Go to a board meeting at Gay Lea as a delegation to give them support.—Draw at each meeting and put one business up each month—each business has there own page now. A student work with Peter to get business info and pictures.-Everyone go to the business directory and check this out. Communication available high speed internet in are municipality – some still on dial up – contact Wightman on this – education and literacy reading and keep with promotion at parades and fairs etc. Saugeen Economic Development out of Neustadt to speak at a meeting maybe a lunch meeting etc.

Next general meeting June 13 Think on this, bring up April meeting.

Meeting dates for the next year—April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, Aug 8, Sept 12, Oct 17, Nov 14, Dec 12 and Jan 9

Next meeting April 11 at the Gay Lea board room. Dale to look into this location. Will let you know location with my reminder notice. Jim closed the meeting.