

South Bruce Community and Business Association

“Serving the Municipality of South Bruce”

Monday, September 8, 2025

Meeting – Minutes

Attendance: Emily Montag, Jean Culliton, Patti Weiler, Ann Marie Dietz, Nikk Wise, Peter Evans, Rhonda Niesen, Paula Culbert

Regrets: Adam Ireland

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion to approve the SBCBA Meeting Agenda – September 8, 2025 – Ann Marie Dietz, seconded by Peter Evans, passed.

Approval of the Minutes:

Motion to approve the SBCBA Meeting Minutes – June 9, 2025 – Nikk Wise, seconded by Jean Culliton, passed.

Follow up from Last Meeting:

- Social Media– will discuss later in the meeting
- By Laws - Discussion around no parking zones
 - o Rhonda suggested to attend a Council Meeting to voice concerns, she will provide a bylaw delegation request form for council to consider a parking by-law for Teeswater
- 2026 Calendar
 - o Nikk reported that quote for 2026 is the same as 2025 costs via the Town Crier
 - o Discussed obtaining one more quote
 - o Nikk has a staff member who can provide assistance with the work required to create the calendar

Motion to approve \$25.00 per hour to a maximum of \$150.00 for administrative assistance with the 2026 calendar – Emily Montag, seconded by Patti Weiler

Treasurer’s Report: Patti Weiler

- \$14,833.69 with no outstanding payments
- 2024 Financial Review Report – tabled to next meeting

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Agriculture: Adam Ireland

- Absent - no report

Industry: TBD

- Will reach out again with meeting reminder to members

Teeswater Mainstreet – Jean Culliton

- Boomer's Cafe & Country Gal Catering has re-opened at a new location

Mildmay Mainstreet – Nikk Wise

- No update regarding the Freshmart
- Nikk will inquire about fall hours for the Farmhouse Shop
- Fish Guy – may want to offer social media assistance – help get a presence
- Freezer Fitness – expanding services to Line Dancing this fall

Formosa – Peter Evans

- Formosa is offering Line Dancing and Cornhole Night this fall

Municipality Report – Rhonda Niesen

- Rhonda reported briefly on the following topics:
 - o Resident/Community Attraction Guide & Campaign
 - o Business Walks
 - o Recent WOWSA – 2025/26 Event
 - o SSUP (Saugeen Student Start-Up Program)
 - o Newcomer Centre of Peel Bus Tour – starting with a light breakfast at Harley's Pub & Perk
 - o South Bruce Business Networking Evening – October 23, 2025 at the Formosa Community Centre
- Rural Ontario Development Program – Request for Support
 - o The Rural Ontario Development (ROD) Program is a cost-share funding initiative by the Ontario government designed to support economic growth and job creation in rural communities. The Economic diversification, competitiveness and capacity building stream covers projects that support communities to build economic development capacity and implement strategies that increase competitiveness to retain businesses, attract investment and enhance growth. This stream offers up to 50% cost-share, up to \$150,000.
 - o Municipal Staff estimates the project cost to be approximately \$30,000 based on quotes received. If successful, our contribution would be a 50% cost-share of up to \$15,000. This is a highly competitive grant with partnership support as a huge asset in having a successful application. Letters to request financial contribution were extended to various business organizations in support of the application. If South Bruce is successful in obtaining sponsorship, this will reduce their share of the of \$15,000 cost.

Motion to support the Rural Ontario Development Program in the amount of \$2500.00 (if grant application is successful) – Jean Culliton, seconded by Ann Marie Dietz, carried.

Outreach: Ann Marie Dietz

- No report

Membership: Jean Culliton

- Jean reported on memberships collected, Paula to update listing
- Discussion around revamping the application form, mail out with the calendar in December to all members
- The focus of this group for the remainder of the year is to increase the membership numbers by showing the value of being part of the SBCBA

Social Media: Emily Montag

- A good discussion around increasing the social media presence for the SBCBA
- Decided on a social media contest for the months of September through December
 - o \$25.00 gift certificate for local businesses as the prize – one per month

New Business

- A discussion around a Christmas Social – SBCBA and the Mildmay Chamber
 - o Date – December 3, 2025 in the Great Room, Freezer Fitness, Mildmay
 - o Discussed a guest speaker and entertainment
 - o More information to come
- AGM Preparation
 - o Looking at speaker options
 - o Emily will report more information at the October Meeting

Next Meeting: Monday, November 3, 2025 at Harley's Pub & Perk

Motion Adjourned: 8:30 am