

Minutes of the Meeting
Carman and Community Chamber
of Commerce
January 10th, 2023- 12:00pm

Present In Person:

Jodi Winkler, Dale Reimer, Sheena Nakonechny, Scott Johnston, Marni Harrison, Bill Vanderveen, Mayghan McEachern, Shannon Vaughan, Tyler King, Jean Karlenzig and Carmen Fotheringham

Via Zoom:

Brian Maxwell, Mark Summers, Trish Middleton, Trevor Klassen, Kelly Dyck, Faye Harms, Evelyn Hoogerdijk, Erin Lemky, Megan McCullough, and Andrew Lindhorst

1. Call to order:

Marni Harrison called the meeting to order at 12:00pm

2. Introductions:

Introductions were made to all in attendance.

3. Approval of Agenda

Dale Reimer moved to accept the January agenda as circulated – Scott Johnston Seconded – Carried

4. Community Reports:

Community Groups

- **Dufferin Ag Society- As Attached**
- **The Back Door Youth Center- As Attached**

Town of Carman- Erin Lemky

- Council has been working on budgets and are looking towards the annual granting meeting that will take place later this month.
- Council is also reviewing the strategic plan that had begun to be implemented pre covid.
- The river trail is now open for walking, but due to the way the water froze this year, a skating trail will not be possible this winter.

RM of Dufferin- Tyler Russell- No Report

Director of Economic Development – Tyler King

- The visitor guide will be circulated in early spring.
- Maps of Carman with restaurants and recreation facilities will be posted throughout the town later this week. This will be of benefit to visitors in our community.
- Boyne Care Holdings is looking to host a lodge tour for current council in early March. They will consider hosting a public forum in early spring.

Carman and Dufferin Recreation- Sheena Nakonechny

- Monday Night Drop-In Basketball started January 9th and will continue until April 24th. This program takes place from 8:30-10:00 pm at Carman Collegiate.
- Hall Walking started January 10th and will continue Tues, Wed, and Thurs until April 6th.
- All Aquafit Classes filled quickly and will start January 16th and 17th.
- My Gym starts January 16th. This program takes place on Monday evenings at the community hall and will run for 6 weeks. Registration is still open.

- Snowshoe rentals are available from Friday to Tuesday. Call the rec office to book or email programcdr@townofcarman.com
- The recreation department will continue to apply for grants and plan their spring and summer programming.

5. Approval of Minutes:

Dale Reimer moved to accept the minutes of the December 13th, 2022 meeting as circulated. Dale Reimer seconded – Carried

6. Financial Report:

The balance in the ACU chequing account as of January 10th 2023 is \$20781.56. The Chamber buck account balance is \$24154.46 and the Business Support Fund account balance is \$11677.45. Kelly Dyck moved to accept the January financials as circulated. Scott Johnston Seconded- Carried

7. Chamber Committee Reports: None

8. President's Report- Marni Harrison

- January Report Attached

9. Executive Director's Report – Jodi Winkler

- January Report Attached

10. Chamber Business Old and New

- **Surviving February-** Registration will take place from February 1st until February 10th, 2023. Draws will start on February 13th and will continue through the month until the Survivor is chosen on February 28th! Be sure to enter a team and join in on the fun!

11. Round Table Discussion

- Archway Dairy is near completion of their storefront project and will host an Open House as soon as they are able to. They now stock western and workwear and have many of the same items that were previously found at Larry Stout's Work and Western Wear.
- Congratulations to Debbie and Ron Vanderswaag who have officially retired from the Oxbow Inn. The Inn has been sold to new owners who will develop these units into rental units. Thank you for your years of dedicated service to our business community.
- Best wishes to Jean Karlenzig, as she switches gears in her career path and leaves Birch and Honey Beauty to pursue an opportunity in Winnipeg. Thank you to Jean for her work with the Chamber and specifically the Membership committee.
- Homestead Co-op's Breakfast with Santa was a HUGE success. The breakfast fed over 300 people from Carman and the surrounding communities. This event has been held annually on the 1st Saturday in December and thank you to Homestead Co-op for taking the reigns and continuing on with this tradition.
- Homestead Co-op Community Spaces Grant opens February 1st and community groups are encouraged to apply.
- Homestead Co-op is now accepting applications for their Gift Card fundraising program. Local groups are encouraged to apply for this fundraising program.
- GPAC has a concert this Thursday, January 12th. Tickets are available through the GPAC website or by calling the office.
- Carman Area Foundation will be hosting a grant application workshop on February 9th. Any community groups that are interested in applying for a grant this year as encouraged to attend this workshop, as the foundation has implemented new software for their online applications.

12. Next Meeting- February 14th, 2023 – Memorial Hall and Zoom

13. Motion made by Shannon Vaughan to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 pm

Dufferin Ag Society- Submitted by Bernie Townsend

Following is a brief report of DAS activity:

- Kasey Reimer has stepped down as Secretary/Manager of the DAS as of December 31, 2022. Jessica Froese has assisted Kasey during her pregnancy and is unable to continue Acting Secretary due to other commitments.
- The DAS advertised for a replacement in Carman Dufferin Standard (received 1 reply) social media (4 replies) and "word of mouth". We have now appointed Melissa Cruickshank as our Secretary/Manager who has unlimited experience in management and is currently the Program Coordinator and Commissioner of Oaths for Valley Fiber. Melissa has not had non-profit experience however was the Project Coordinator for the Michael Rady Medical Research Centre at University of Manitoba. Melissa is looking forward to working with the community and has indicated that she will be DAS representative at future Chamber of Commerce meetings.
- In lieu of a January meeting the DAS is having a "round table" supper meeting at Blue Crescent Hotel Thursday, 12th January. This meeting is an informal workshop to bring together all members of committees to the same objectives of the DAS. We will have positive discussion on all facets of the operation, fiscal responsibility, use of facility, and commitment to the DAS and Community.

The Back Door Youth Center- Submitted by Tyler Friesen

- Programming: We now have 4 weekly and 2 biweekly programs running out of three local churches. We celebrated Christmas with dinner and hay rides with 39 grades 6-12 students, and a pizza party with 45 grades 4&5 students just before the break. We carried our Grades 6-12 drop-in nights through the Christmas break and all programs return on January 16.
- Pillar of Hope Capital Project. Excellent progress continues with most drywall and mudding and taping done. The painting starts next week. We had over \$40,000 in capital donations in December leaving us between \$400,000 and \$450,000 shy of our projected budget. If any prospective donors would like a tour to see what you would be investing, please let me know!

President's Report- January Meeting

Happy New Year!

As the calendar turns to 2023, we have the opportunity to reflect on a successful year for our Chamber and the community.

A highlight for me was the Car-Wo-Man event. It was a beautiful evening, but the research and stories leading up to the event were also time well spent.

We look forward to building on our relationship with the Collegiate to promote careers and jobs in Carman as we understand that job vacancies are one of the largest challenges our members face.

Thanks to everyone who provided time and monetary support to the Chamber in 2022.

We encourage you as a member to offer your time and expertise to programs the Chamber offers in 2023. Activities could not occur in 2022 because we didn't have enough people to offer their time.

If you have not done so yet please drop us a note as we would like to focus our time and efforts on events that are of value to our members.

Cheers to 2023!

Marni

Executive Director Report- January Meeting

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It is my hope that your holiday season was filled with family, friends, good food and that lots of memories were made.

December was another busy month for the Chamber and I thank you for being a part of it!

Holiday Hoopla was held on December 8th and it was a great event! Storefront businesses were hopping and the atmosphere in the downtown business district was heartwarming! Congratulations to Erica Donley on winning the draw for \$1000 in Chamber Bucks! Thank you to all of the businesses that participated in this second annual event! We look forward to making it bigger and better in 2023!

Keep the Cheer Here kept our social media busy through the month of December and allowed us to award \$2900 in Chamber Bucks to community members! Thank you to all of the businesses that sponsored these giveaways and congrats to all of the winners. I hope that you enjoyed your local shopping!

The onboarding of our new membership platform is complete and by now you should have received log in information and membership invoices for 2023.

Thank you to those of you that have already sent in your membership fees for 2023! I look forward to the features that this database includes and I will work to utilize this membership platform as we move into the new year.

I look forward to another successful year for the Chamber in 2023. This year I will work to increase membership numbers, add value to your current membership by offering sessions and seminars that will benefit your business, as well as grow and enhance our annual events that have proved to be successful and beneficial to our membership. I encourage you to become actively involved in the Chamber and join us on a planning committee, attend a business mixer or lunch and learn, zoom in for a monthly meeting, or host a meet and greet at your business.

As always, I am open to comments and suggestions on Chamber activities and I hope to see you at an event in the near future.

Thanks for a great year in 2022 and Cheers to 23!

Sincerely,

Jodi Winkler

Executive Director, Carman and Community Chamber of Commerce