

**Minutes of the Zoom Meeting  
Carman and Community Chamber  
of Commerce  
February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022- 12:00pm**

**Present In Person:**

Jodi Winkler, Tyler King, Marni Harrison, Kelly Dyck, Sheena Nakonechny, Ken Reimer, Nancy Chatwin, and Dale Reimer.

**Via Zoom:**

Richard Dyck, Trish Middleton, Marge Warkentin, Trevor Klassen, Dean North, Jeff and Linda Doerksen, Meaghan McCullough, Kayla Morden, Shannon Vaughan, Abbie Gardiner, and Tracy Enns.

**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 February agenda as circulated – Nancy Chatwin Seconded – Carried

**4. Community Reports:**

**Community Groups**

**-Communities in Bloom**

- As attached

**- Dufferin Ag Society- presented by Dale Reimer**

- Carman Country Fair will be held July 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The DAS hopes that this event will be held in a similar format to pre covid. The midway has been confirmed.
- Denim and Dust Barrel Racing series will be held again this year. Plans to start the series in July will be confirmed in the coming months.

**Director of Economic Development – Tyler King**

- The storefront improvement grant was sent to businesses in early January and there have been many applications already received. The deadline to apply is March 1<sup>st</sup>. Businesses are encouraged to get their applications in before this date.

**Town of Carman – Richard Dyck**

- The year end financials showed a small surplus in 2021, and council agreed we should put it into a reserve to be used for street renovations in 2022.
- Budgets for all committees continue to be discussed and revised agreed upon.
- Priorities in town capital funds include 1st St SW reconstruction, prep work on 2nd St SE and 3rd St SE, storm sewer 1st St SW. We also want to spend funds on sidewalks near the new hotel and in the north end.

**RM Rep- George Gray- No Report**

**Carman and Dufferin Recreation- Sheena Nakonechny**

- The Carman Dufferin Arena has many availabilities for Ice rentals still available.
- Carman will be host to the U11 Rural A-1 provincials March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and the AAA U15 Female Provincials March 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Rugby Manitoba has contacted the Rec Department and they hope to start playing in Carman in June of this year.

- First Aid Training will be held in Carman on March 5<sup>th</sup>. This training will be conducted by Bill Vanderveen.

#### **5. Approval of Minutes:**

Kelly Dyck moved to accept the minutes of the January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting as circulated. Dale Reimer seconded - Carried

#### **6. Financial Report:**

The balance in the ACU chequing account as of February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 is 18152.33. The Chamber buck account balance is \$14672.92 and the Business Support Fund account balance is \$13127.87. Kelly Dyck moved to accept the February financial statement as circulated. Dale Reimer Seconded - Carried

#### **7. Chamber Committee Reports:**

##### **Membership Committee:**

The membership committee met at the beginning of February and had some great ideas come out of the meeting. The committee has reached out to local businesses that were mentioned in the Keep the Cheer Here campaign that were not Chamber members and Community Futures Heartland has offered to sponsor the 2022 membership in the Chamber for these 6 new businesses.

The committee is looking to host a Celebration of Women in Business in May and Jodi has contacted the Carman Dufferin Standard regarding a series of articles highlighting the women in our business community.

#### **8. President's Report- Marni Harrison**

- February Report Attached

#### **9. Executive Director's Report - Jodi Winkler:**

- February Report Attached

#### **10. Chamber Business Old and New- None Presented**

#### **11. Round Table Discussion**

- Homestead Co-op's Community Spaces Grant is now open and an online application is available. This grant offers up to \$150 000 for community betterment projects.
- 9 Lives was able to donate \$1000 to Communities in Bloom through their Jewelry Donation Program. 9 Lives is also hosting an instore "Share the Love" Valentine's event. With every purchase of \$10 or more you will be entered to win an after-hours shopping party.

#### **12. Next Meeting - Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - Memorial Hall and Zoom**

#### **13. Motion made by Kelly Dyck to adjourn the meeting at 12:21 pm**

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#### **Community Reports- Communities in Bloom**

CIB first organized in spring of 2019 to enter the provincial Communities in Bloom competition. Then Covid happened, cancelling the competitions for 2020, 2021, and now 2022.

C/D CIB Committee (20 members) continued to meet via Zoom in the winter, and outdoors in the warmer months.

A Strategic Plan was developed to focus on specific projects & fundraising.

CIB Projects update:

1.) Boyneside Park: a newly created pocket park situated on the Boyne River near Riverview Senior's Apartments. Several trees (donated by Aubin Nurseries) were planted, locally made

wooden benches installed, plus an extension of the park with a short walkway along the river. A donation from Access Credit Union will see (this Spring) installation of a shade sail pergola, locally purchased wheelchair access picnic tables & a gravelled pathway. This park will continue to be a work in progress with more plantings of flowers and trees. \*\*\*\*This has been a very successful CIB project & well-received by the public.

2.) Planters on Main Street: a grant from Carman Area Foundation allowed for the purchase of ten visually appealing, environmentally friendly planters. With assistance from Town Maintenance staff, the planters were installed all along Main Street & CIB Volunteers planted the flowers in the containers. The Town kindly offered to water the planters & they looked spectacular!

CIB received many accolades for this project. As a result, funding for ten more planters is being applied for through Carman Area Foundation this year.

Unique Fundraisers:

- 1.) Benches: ten wooden benches were locally made, and were all sold immediately
- 2.) Rain barrels: in conjunction with Redboine Conservation District, 86 barrels were sold.
- 3.) Quilt raffle: donation by a local quilter -draw will be June 30/2022

Goals for 2022:

- 1.) With a common vision for the beautification of Carman, identify & prioritize 3 areas on which to focus
- 2.) Increase beauty of publicly owned spaces following these guidelines:
  - a.) Tidiness d.) Urban Forestry
  - b.) Environmental Action e.) Landscape
  - c.) Heritage & Cultural Conservation f.) Floral Displays
- 3.) Increase funding for beautification & landscaping projects i.e. grant applications, fundraisers
- 4.) Working alongside Town & Municipality, Businesses, other organizations and general public

For example:

In lieu of yet another cancelled CIB competition, C/D CIB will be looking to participate in:

2022 Year of the Garden: a yearlong program between National Communities in Bloom & the Canadian Garden Council.

For more information: [https:// www.communitiesinbloom.ca/year-of-the-garden-2022/](https://www.communitiesinbloom.ca/year-of-the-garden-2022/).

This has real potential for a partnership with the Town of Carman, RM of Dufferin, Chamber of Commerce, Carman Garden Club, The Community Garden, Schools and more.....

As C/D CIB learns more on how to participate in this interesting project, information will be shared: Facebook, Standard newspaper. Stay tuned!

Submitted by:

Susan Mooney & Judy McGregor (Co-Chairs)

### **President's Report- February Meeting**

Hi everyone,

What happened to January – that went by quick!!

We were in a little bit of a lull after a very busy December, but are looking forward to the opportunities 2022 will bring.

Your membership package should have arrived by now, if you have not seen it, please reach out.

We have a new initiative for February. After hearing from retailers that February was generally a slow month, we (well Jodi) have come up with Chamber Survivor. Teams of 4 will purchase 4 \$25 gift cards. Get yours in by Feb. 11 to participate, and there will be 14 days of winners, with the last name standing claiming the big prize. All gift cards will be awarded, so the prize amount will not be known until after Feb. 11. Get your business and/or friends together for this fun event!

Congratulations to Alice on her retirement, and welcome to Tracey and Michelle! It is wonderful to see businesses continue on in our town.

Looking forward, please let us know if you have any ideas for learning opportunities, or if you'd like to host a Meet and Greet. Our aim is to organize an event a month on top of the monthly directors meeting, so get those ideas in!

Thanks everyone for your engagement, and support of each other.

Marni

## **Executive Director Report- February Meeting**

I hope that you are all Surviving February. Not sure where January went, but here we are.

We have launched a fun and exciting contest where we can survive February together and support our local businesses at the same time. It's fun, easy to participate and will make the cold February days fly by!

Create a team with four people, purchase a \$25 gift card from ANY chamber business for each of the members on your team, enter your team and WIN!

Full contest details are available on FB and Insta and will be sent to businesses tomorrow.

Best of luck to all who enter and thank you for your participation!

2022 Membership packages were sent out last month and thank you to those of you that have sent in your membership fees.

If you did not receive your package in the mail yet, please let me know and I will be sure to get a new one out to you.

Once again, we are offering our "Sponsor a member" program. If you know of a business that would enjoy the benefits of the Chamber network and they have not been a Chamber member in the past five years, we encourage you to sponsor them at the reduced rate of \$50. Please reach out if you would like more information on this program or if you know of a business that would appreciate a sponsorship.

We are looking forward to meeting in person in the very near future and would encourage your business to host an after-hours business mixer, where we invite Chamber members to your business for a couple of hours of fellowship and networking. Please let me know if your business would be interested in hosting an event such as this. I would be more than happy to work on the plans with you.

As always, Stay Safe, Stay Warm and enter your survivor team TODAY!

Jodi Winkler

Executive Director, Carman and Community Chamber of Commerce