

**Minutes of the Zoom Meeting  
Carman and Community Chamber of  
Commerce  
January 12, 2021- 12:00pm**

**Present:** Jodi Winkler, Tyler King, Mayghan McEacheran, Marni Harrison, Scott Johnston, Marlin Metcalf, Mark Peters, Richard Dyck, Kelly Dyck, Jason Rheault, Brian Maxwell, Clayton Morgan, Dean North, Trevor Klassen, Mark Summers, Bill Vanderveen and Rob Bryson.

**1. Call to order:**

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

**2. Introductions:**

Introductions were made by all in attendance

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Mark Peters moved to accept the January agenda as circulated – Kelly Dyck Seconded – Carried

**4. Community Reports:**

**Boyne Regional Library- Submitted by Tina Cronin**

- As Attached

**Director of Economic Development – Tyler King**

- The Storefront Improvement Grant applications are now being accepted. Information regarding this grant can be found on the town website. Jodi will also forward this to Chamber members.

**Town of Carman – Richard Dyck**

- Council has been working through the garbage by-law. They hope to have the new system in place by spring. Carts will be provided to all homes and bins provided to all businesses.
- Valley Fiber has almost completed pushing the fiber lines for high-speed internet in Carman.

**RM Rep- Clayton Morgan**

- Valley Fiber will be pushing a line along highway 3 to Sperling.
- Bell is also looking for a location for a tower placement in this area.
- The RM animal by-law will be reviewed at the council meeting tonight.

**Carman and Dufferin Recreation-**

- The CDR is pleased to offer a snowshoe rental program. For more information, please contact the Rec Dept.

**5. Approval of Minutes:**

Brian Maxwell moved to accept the minutes of the December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting as circulated- Mayghan McEacheran Seconded - Carried

## **6. Financial Report:**

The balance in the ACU chequing account as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 is \$3514.35. The Chamber buck account balance is \$25713.75.

Kelly Dyck moved to accept the December financial statement as presented. Mayghan McEacheran Seconded – Carried

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

### **Membership Committee:**

The membership committee has not yet met in 2021, but will be focusing on recruiting new members this spring.

The sponsor a member program is available for existing members to sponsor a new member for only \$50.

2021 Membership invoices will be sent out this week.

## **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**

- December's Keep the Cheer Here Campaign was a huge success and we would like to thank all of the sponsors of this promotion. We look forward to making this annual event, as it was very well received by the community and small business owners.
- Code Red restrictions have been extended until January 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will keep members updated on any changes that are implemented to these orders.

## **11. Round Table Discussion**

- A positive of Covid has been the expansion of the utilization of the Boyne River. Thank you to all of those involved in keeping the skating and walking paths clear. This has been an amazing addition to our community this winter.
- There was discussion of forming a committee to assist with the upkeep and expansion of this project. After the meeting as adjourned, Marni and Jodi had a conversation with Tyler regarding this committee. The Boyne River Keepers are a newly formed group in Carman, and they are committed to this project. The Chamber will assist them with their efforts without the formation of a committee.
- We will look for a report from the Boyne River Keepers for the February meeting.
- Jodi will be applying to the Area Foundation for a grant to purchase lighting for Ryall park, with the hopes of decorating the stage similar to the Hallmark movie set that was set up in Carman in October of this past year.

## **12. Next Meeting – February 9<sup>th</sup> - 12:00 pm – Via Zoom**

## **13. Motion made by Kelly Dyck to adjourn the meeting at 12:25 pm**

## **Boyne Regional Library Report**

The Boyne Regional Library has been able to continue providing curbside pickup service. This is available by appointment only, during our regular business hours. Patrons are asked to submit requests by phone: (204)745-3504 or by e-mail at: carmanlibrary@outlook.com.

To maintain delivery of programming, the Boyne Regional Library has launched a new programming website: [www.boynelibraryprogramming.com](http://www.boynelibraryprogramming.com), where patrons can find information about current programming, register for programs, view special services and events, and connect with staff. This is in addition to our regular library website: [www.boyneregionallibrary.com](http://www.boyneregionallibrary.com). To help the community find ways to stay safe at home, programming has proceeded with Zoom instruction and interaction.

February is "I Love to Read" month at the library and we have some special events planned for our community. The library has created a reading challenge for adults for the entire month using the Beanstack app. This is the same app we used for our Halloween Secret Code Hunt, meaning participants that created an account in October will not have to create a new account to register for this challenge. There will be activities to complete and reading minutes to log to earn badges, and more importantly this time around, tickets to enter our online prize draw at the end of the month.

Every week during the month of February there will be a chance to win one of our Quarantine Reading Care Packages full of literary, wellness, and self-care products that have been generously donated from local businesses.

Chances to win are as follows:

February 1 st -6 th - Instagram Challenge: Post a photo of your current read, captioning it with an impactful sentence from the book. Participants need to use the hash tag #carmanlovestoread to earn a ballot. Multiple entries will be accepted.

February 7 th— 13 th – Read Aloud Challenge: Send us a video clip of someone from your household reading aloud. Each clip will act as one ballot. If permission is granted, the winning video will be posted on our social media accounts.

February 14 th – 20 th – Reading BINGO: Paper BINGO cards will be distributed in our curbside pickup bags for the month of February. Completed challenge will be submitted in our drop box. Winner will be drawn February 20 th .

February 21 st -28 th – Online Reading Challenge Draw

"I Read Canadian Day" is February 17 th , 2021. The library will have several read aloud Zoom events based on age level, comprised of 15 minutes of reading. Book selections will be posted February 1 st , 2021.

We hope that we will be able to resume in person programming soon, but until it makes sense in the space we have, we will continue to provide virtual programming.

## **January President's Report**

Happy New Year Members!

We hope you all were able to enjoy time with your family and a break from business for at least a moment over Christmas.

I feel very fortunate to live in Carman and be part of a business community that is so generous. The Keep the Cheer Here campaign is a great example of our community supporting one another. Thanks to everyone that donated, and for the retailers that worked so hard to keep up to demand throughout the holiday season! I also want to commend our Executive Director Jodi for all of the extra effort she put in for this campaign. Daily rewards that we were wanting to get to our winners quickly was a time commitment!

As I write this, I am not sure what businesses are going to look like on January 9<sup>th</sup>. I am convinced that you our members will continue to adapt as necessary, but please let us know if you need support. We strive to be an active resource for you, and need your feedback to ensure we are providing value to you.

In 2021 we intend to focus on social media training, but what that looks like is still in development. If you have other ideas of training we could provide, please let us know.

Further, you now have the option to “Sponsor” a member. If you know of a business that is currently not a member, and you feel they would benefit, you can sponsor them for \$50. Just another way to support your local business!

Let us know if you have any questions.

Marni

### **January Executive Director Report**

Happy New Year!

We made it! At times it thought that 2020 was never going to end, but here we are! 2021! December was a busy month despite the current code red restrictions.

The #keepthecheerhere campaign was an overwhelming success!

We were able to give away \$5600 in Chamber Bucks! Thank you to the following sponsors that made this promotion possible.

Access Credit Union  
Golden Prairie Arts Council  
Royal LePage Legacy  
MMJS Law Office  
The Oxbow Inn  
Newman Hand Insurance  
B O'Brien Bookkeeping  
Klos Realty  
George and Associates  
PKF Law Office  
Sunlife Financial- Kim Jensen

Nakonechny and Power  
Carman Home Hardware  
Homestead Co-op  
BSI Insurance  
Wes's Tire  
Vanderveen Promotions  
Greenland Equipment  
Ed's Tire  
Great White Tech  
Kozak Plumbing and Heating

All of the winners have claimed their prizes and we hope that our smaller, local businesses have benefitted from this promotion.

Thank you to the Town of Carman and other businesses and individuals that purchased Carman Chamber Bucks this holiday season. We issued just over \$23 000 in Chamber Buck certificates in the months of November and December and we thank you for supporting this local initiative. The “Shop Local” message was highly publicized this year and I feel that our community supported this message.

As we anticipate this week’s announcement regarding the Code Red restrictions, I hope that we can continue to strengthen and support those businesses that are not yet able to open their doors to the public and #keepthecheerhere through the remainder of this year.

I look forward to meeting in person very soon, and please remember that I am here to support you as we maneuver through the COVID-19 pandemic. If you have specific questions or needs please reach out.

Stay Safe and Healthy!

Sincerely,  
Jodi Winkler  
Executive Director  
Carman and Community Chamber of Commerce

