



113th Annual General Meeting
Humboldt & District Chamber of Commerce
Held Thursday March 29, 2018 at the Canalta Hotel

1. Call to Order- Dan Torwalt called meeting to order at 12:20pm.
2. Adoption of Agenda
Motion: To adopt the agenda as presented.
Moved by Adam Tremblay, Seconded by Floyd Lueke
MOTION CARRIED
3. Minutes of March 30, 2017 Annual General Meeting
Motion: To approve the minutes of the 112th AGM as presented.
Moved by Brian Loos, Seconded by Olivia Coffyne
MOTION CARRIED
4. 2017 President's Report presented by Dan Torwalt
5. First Call for New Business
6. Review of Financial Report
Motion: To accept financial report as presented.
Moved by Brian Loos, Seconded by Olivia Coffyne
MOTION CARRIED
7. Appointment of Accountant for Annual Review
Motion: HSA Chartered Professional Accountants to act as accountant for 2018.
Moved by Adam Tremblay, Seconded by Doug Biehn
MOTION CARRIED
8. Committee Reports
 - a. Business Retention & Expansion – Adam Tremblay, Chair
 - b. Public Relations & Promotions- Olivia Coffyne, Chair
 - c. Visitor Information Centre & Campground – Brian Loos, Chair
9. Final Call for New Business
 - a. Rob Meunch, Mayor of Humboldt asked to speak



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10. New Business

- a. Report from Rob Meunch, Mayor of Humboldt
 - i. Introduced Joe Day, City Manager
 - ii. Councilors are out visiting businesses
 - iii. SAMA Assessments & Taxes
 - 1. Taxes haven't change much due to 50% of business taxes going up and 50% going down
 - 2. \$100,000 worth of taxes went down due to appeals
 - 3. Staff has been tasked with finding or creating tools to facilitate the setting of tax rates
 - 4. Budget has been set with a 2% tax increase, which is lower or on par with other municipalities
 - iv. Tax Abatements
 - 1. Council is not adverse, 2 are already ongoing with BID & Southside of town (South of 7th Avenue)
 - 2. Cheaper for infrastructure to revitalize an area vs new subdivision
 - v. City has hired Penny Lee as Communications Director

11. Approval of 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Dan Torwalt, Century 21 Diamond Realty
Morgan Jaster, Behiel, Will & Biemans
Olivia Coffyne, Diamonds of Detroit
Megan Moore, Bolt Cleaners
Floyd Lueke, Midland Glass
Adam Tremblay, Tremblay Electric
Shelley Romanyszyn-Cross, Carlton Trail College
Stefani Block, Stryde Contracting Ltd.
Rob Bowman, Delwood Spray Foam
Anne Thomas, MNP LLP
Larry Jorgenson, appointed as City of Humboldt liaison
Motion: To approve the 2018/2019 Board of Directors.
Moved by Brian Loos, Seconded by Dean Hergott

MOTION CARRIED



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12. Acknowledge departing Board Members
 - a. Brian Loos, MNP LLP
13. Election of President and Vice President

Floyd Lueke nominated Dan Torwalt, Century 21 Diamond Realty for President. Nomination accepted by Dan Torwalt.
*** Dan Torwalt proclaimed president by acclimation.**

Adam Tremblay nominated Olivia Coffyne, Diamonds of Detroit for Vice-President. Nomination accepted by Olivia Coffyne.
*** Olivia Coffyne proclaimed vice-president by acclimation.**
14. Adjournment: Dan Torwalt adjourned the meeting at 12:54pm

2018: Chair Adam Tremblay

The Business Retention and Expansion Committee is responsible for the communication and growing relationship between the Chamber and the municipal government, the growth of opportunities in our region and the challenges that arise with these opportunities. Any gaps in services provided to our Chamber members and the retention and recruitment of our membership. 2018 was focused on the continued relations with the regions RMs, Town's and village's and our continued growing works and communication with the City of Humboldt.

Members of the committee were involved in meetings with both the city and other businesses to discuss future planning and community development in our region. 2018 was a year with members having continued concerns with the tax increases and we continue to try and support them how we can.

At the end of 2017 and beginning of 2018 we have seen a steady decrease in our membership and currently sits at about 230 members, our short term goal that we put in place with our new Executive Director is to increase membership to 250 and long term goal for 2019 to hit 300 members.

The BRE committee is excited to continue their engagement in the community and area to assist the business community with their expansion and diversification in 2019 and with a full board of directors supporting our new Executive Director we have high expectations moving forward.

Thank You

Executive Directors Report for 2018.

As we are all aware, 2018 was a turbulent year for the City of Humboldt and indeed the Humboldt and District Chamber of Commerce. The events of April 6 coloured the entire year, including the business community.

Staffing changes midway through the year, challenged nearly every component of the operation. I was hired as executive director and Amanda Zubot was picked up as the office manager both starting in and around November 1. Let the learning curve begin.

Because of that, I cannot speak directly of the events of 2018—though I can pass along some observations on the financial statements.

- The year ended with a deficit of \$4,633. This amount is on par with average losses from the previous 5 years. Revenues were down by \$9,025 (year over year), while expenses were only down by \$5,159.
- The greatest two impacts were a significant decrease in campground revenue (\$13,196) and increases in payroll of (\$10,899).
- The Mark of Excellence was shown a revenue exactly on par with a five-year average, while the expenses were slightly higher. Venue change for the trade show greatly reduced expenses, pushing the event to a slight profit.
- Memberships have seen a long and gradual decline in the previous five years. That trend continued in 2018. This is a downward momentum that Humboldt is not unique in having. Research indicates that is happening in many jurisdictions. In chatting with former members about why they left, their greatest single concern was value for the money. Therefore, stopping that trend is going to require some very clear goal changes for the Humboldt and District Chamber of Commerce.
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Visitor Information Centre & Campground (VIC)

The operation of the Visitor Information Centre and campground is a key responsibility of the Humboldt & District Chamber of Commerce. The City of Humboldt contracts the Chamber to manage and promote the Visitor Information Centre and related services. The City of Humboldt leases the campground to the Chamber and allows the Chamber to retain all related revenues.

The VIC committee sincerely thanks the permanent Chamber staff as well as the temporary and summer student employees for their dedication to our operations this past year. During 2018 the Chamber operated 22 electrical sites and provided ongoing maintenance to ensure the campground remain an inviting place for visitors to stay. This included hauling five loads of gravel into the campground, upgrading various camp sites, replacing greens and wood on five mini golf holes, and providing a refreshing break for sore eyes: a freshly painted caboose, compliments of CN!

On July 1st the Chamber celebrated Canada Day by offering a free mini golf day. Attendance was a success, with 278 golfers braving the mini golf greens despite the less-than-ideal weather. The Chamber is grateful to the City of Humboldt for offering their support for the event in the form of a \$1,000 grant.

During 2018, the Chamber expanded the services provided to campers by installing an ice machine and offering the sale of ice to thirsty campers. We also created and disbursed a new Visitor Information Map throughout the community, which promotes the City and surrounding region, highlights the Chamber as a Visitor Information Centre, and advertises the presence and services of our members. This represented a new revenue source for the VIC this past year.

Despite the many improvements implemented throughout 2018, the VIC and campground experienced a decline in overall profitability, largely as a result of the weather. While healthy occupancy of the campsites was achieved, the camping season was condensed by more than one month in comparison to prior year. This resulted in decreased camping and mini-golf revenues.

In 2019, the Chamber plans to undertake continual maintenance of the campground. First on the list will include a facelift to the washrooms. We will also implement the use of Camp Reservations Canada, a convenient and user-friendly campsite reservation program. The Chamber will collect an administrative fee based on usage of the site. The VIC committee looks forward to another great year ahead!