

## GRAND BEND & AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday November 5, 2008 – 6:30pm  
Oakwood Resort, Terrace Room

### Silent Auction

Fifty-four items were donated; the auction netted over \$2900.

### Dinner

Oakwood Resort provided a beautiful roast turkey buffet complete with all the trimmings.

### Presentation

Lambton Shores Councillor, Ruth Illman, gave a colourful, PowerPoint presentation about the success of the 2008 Lambton Shores Communities in Bloom project. The project received a very high rating for a first-time competitor, as well as, a provincial award for floral displays.

*Communities in Bloom* is considered an economic development tool, and chamber members were encouraged to consider their role in the project's categories of tidiness, environmental awareness, community involvement, natural and cultural heritage conservation, tree/urban forest management, floral displays, and turf and groundcovers.

### Annual General Meeting

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 8:15pm.
  - a) President, George MacDermid welcomed all those in attendance.
  - b) The following special guests were recognized: Lambton Shores Mayor, Gord Minelly; Lambton Shores Councillors, John Dehondt, Mark Simpson and Ruth Illman; Tourism Sarnia Lambton General Manager, John Dickson; and Sarnia Lambton Business Development Officer, Rose Moore.
  - c) President MacDermid thanked the Oakwood Resort for their excellent hospitality.
- 2) Roll Call of Members: Sharen Realty, Apropos, Grand Bend Fitness, Sea Jewels, BMO, The Garden Gate Gifts and Florals, Innosite, T.Harry Hoffman & Sons Ltd., Welcome Home Realty, GB Posh, Baille's Picture Framing, Star Taxi, Robert Webb, Tourism Sarnia Lambton, Grandpa Jimmy's Scottish Bakery, Gilpin Furniture, George MacDermid and Associates, Colonial Gables, Ellison Travel, Pine Dale Motor Inn, Brentwood on the Beach, e-clicks, Lakeshore Advance, Oakwood Resort, 104.9 The Beach, Romantic Log Cabin, HMS MacLachlan Insurance.
- 3) **Motion: moved by GB Posh and seconded by 104.9 The Beach that the agenda be accepted. Carried.**
- 4) Previous Minutes
  - a) There were no errors or omissions.

**b) Motion: moved by HMS MacLachlan Insurance and seconded by Star Taxi that the previous minutes be accepted. Carried.**

5) Financial Report

Treasurer, George Appel, presented the financial report showing that most expenses were under budget, and a year-end net income of \$5382.01.

**Motion: moved by The Lakeshore Advance and seconded by GB Posh to accept the financial report. Carried.**

6) Manager's Report

Office Manager, Christine Bregman, presented the manager's report by way of a PowerPoint presentation which included details about office operations, members in the media, thank you's to volunteers, visitors and email activity, website update and usage, membership statistics, connections with local organizations and municipalities, a new event for 2009 (Aquafest) and chamber partnerships. Christine concluded the report with the office staff's three favourite questions.

Dave Bartlam from Oakwood Resort gave an outline of the new marketing initiatives. A copy of the report is included with the minutes.

**Motion: moved by Pine Dale Motor Inn and seconded by GB Posh to accept the manager's report. Carried.**

7) The Economic Development Committee report was tabled to the next general meeting.

8) Resolutions

**a) Motion: moved by Robert Webb and seconded by Casey Lessard that this Grand Bend Chamber of Commerce, adopt in principle, the KOVAR/ALBRECT INITIATIVE and through the offices and executive of our Chamber, actively pursue assurances from the Municipality that the concerns of Beach Safety will be addressed and resolved to co-ordinate with the Beach Enhancement completion in the spring of 2009. Carried.**

**b) Motion: moved by Jack Powell and seconded by Stephanie Weber that the Grand Bend & Area Chamber of Commerce adopt a Code of Ethics as per the Ontario Accommodation Association that is required for membership approval for all accommodation providers. Carried.**

9) Sales representative, Neil Clifford, gave an update regarding the 2009 Visitors' Guide. The guide will be increased to 64 pages and will contain more general, area information than previous editions.

10) Election of Officers

a) Four, two-year executive positions were declared vacant.

b) The following members were elected to the vacated two-year executive positions: George Appel, Phil Gaudreault, Julie Murphy and George MacDermid.

11) No new business was brought forward.

12) Jim McCoy was appointed as the auditor for 2009.

Business Awards

The 2008 Business of the Year went to **Grandpa Jimmy's Scottish Bakery.**

The 2008 Entrepreneur of the Year went to **Shannon Ryan, The Garden Gate Gifts and Florals.**

Comment forms and Adjournment

Members were asked to complete the comment form included in their Annual General Meeting package.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_