

**Barrhead & District Chamber of Commerce
General Meeting Minutes**

Date: Thursday, January 19th, 2023

Time: 12:00 noon

Location: Charles Godberson Room, Agrena

1. Call to Order
 - a) 12:15

2. Additions to the Agenda
 - a) None

3. Adoption of Agenda
 - a) Josh

4. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - a) January Executive Meeting Minutes - Nadia
 - b) December General Meeting Minutes- Nadia

5. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - a) None

6. Speaker – Charity Vollman
 - a) Careers NextGen
Information for Employer Partnerships, Youth Internship Incentive Program
-Based out of Whitecourt
-Charity area of service – Barrhead and Neerlandia
-Expanding – new name” Careers” previously Careers Next Generation, also recognized as the RAP program
-Alberta based, non profit, works with students to connect with employers, in skilled trades.
-Work experience programs areas include info tech, ag, forestry, healthcare (private) and trades. Broad categories for indigenous individuals.
-Barrhead teachers have been doing a lot of work with Careers (Mrs. Bondarchuk)
-Works with employers who are interested in having a student work for them
-Students can explore different work opportunity in the community
-Students receive credits for these hours, wage (mandatory minimum wage) and work experience. Average work week is 8-10 hours per week
-Youth incentive program – funding available to cover the cost for hiring successful students, hand-out provided (cannot be combined with other funding programs)

-WCB is covered by school
-Looking to host young woman in trades and technology. Planning to do a workshop in Barrhead for a hands-on experience.

-Please call Charity for an in-house visit to see if this program can benefit your business and for more detailed information!

7. Financial Update – Michelle

- a) Tabled

8. Committee Reports

- a) Advertising/Marketing - Kristine
 - i. Website rebuild, chamber cash program, SM content, radio advertisement program and more....
- b) Economic Development – Megan
 - i. Looking for card program membership incentives from businesses such as discounts on services and products
- c) Membership – TBD
 - i. Need chair and more individual support - Membership packages and the inclusions along with obtaining new members
- d) Networking & Business Activities – TBD
 - i. Need chair and more individual support - Golf tournaments, Business excellence awards and other networking events
- e) Charitable Activities (Festival of Trees, etc.) – Michelle
- f) Careers Next Generation (now Careers) – TBD
 - i. Need chair and more individual support - Helping with Careers to connect with the business community
- g) Mainstreet Events – Laura & Josh
 - i. Please provide any event suggestions
 - ii. Street festival will be June 15th to follow lemonade day

Please ask within your organization for volunteers to help with the committees

9. Town of Barrhead Update

- a) Passed the 2023 budget
 - i. 1.8% increase to the municipal property taxes, first increase since 2019
 - ii. \$3,864,340.00 in cap purchases
 - iii. \$15,213,840.00 operating
 - iv. Revenue \$15,224,360.00
 - v. Surplus \$10,520.00
- b) Working with MLA on a few issues such as lack of ambulance response time, occupancy strategies for the ADLC building, library funding and

FCSS funding increases, cost of living wage increases, retaining new doctors/wanting to fill up old clinic.

10. County of Barrhead Update

- a) tabled

11. Other Business

- a) Chamber Cash – Shannon

Shop local program where face value is reimbursed to the participating business. Businesses are reminded that the full value of chamber cash is to be spent in store and change is not to be given for unused value.

For reimbursement - please submit collected Chamber Cash with an invoice to:

Barrhead Chamber, Box 4524, Barrhead, AB T7N 1A5

Cheques will be processed on a month end basis and mailed out.

12. Announcements

- a) Dr. Ray Roast – February 11, 2023 @ 6pm at the Senior's Drop in Centre
-Fundraiser to raise money for the naming of the skate park

13. Next Meetings:

- a) General Meeting February 16th, 2023, Charles Godberson Room, Agrena
- b) Executive Board Meeting February 15th, 2023, Perry Law LLP

14. Adjourn Meeting – 1:02pm