

LaunchIt Minto
Minutes of September 7, 2016
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The LaunchIt Minto Board held a meeting on Wednesday September 7, 2016 at LaunchIt Minto. Board Members present for the meeting were Chair Glen Hall, Councillor Mary-Lou Colwell, Bernice Weber Passchier, Calvin Frey, Irmgard Kuersten-Kirkorian, John Mock and Manager of Economic Development Belinda Wick-Graham.

Members of staff present; Business Development Coordinator, Somer Gerber. Regrets were received from Hope Reidt, Justin McIntosh, Ryan Koeslag and Mayor George Bridge

Chair Glen Hall opened the meeting at 12:03p.m

Hall opened the meeting with a discussion about Board member recruitment following the announcement that Justin McIntosh has stepped down from the Board due to his limited availability. The Board made some suggestions including Harold DeVries from Guelph Wellington Business Enterprise Centre. Gerber will contact the suggested people to discuss this invitation.

The Board reviewed the August financials. Wick-Graham told the Board that LaunchIt Minto was approved for \$10,000 from the Libro Prosperity Fund This money will allow us to start the Elevating Agriculture component. LaunchIt will receive the funds in November.

This money will allow us to do the following:

1. Land will be surveyed with total station GPS technology by Town Engineering Consultant
2. Soil tests will be conducted to assist in laying out potential parcels.
3. Plot plan will be prepared identifying size and dimension of parcels available along with roadway access and any other needed services (power, water etc.)
4. Plot Lease will be drafted outlining general terms for all occupants including term, cost, type of crops, permitted farm practices, buildings and structures, equipment, etc.

Actual roadway construction, plot identification in field and leasing to qualified participants will be a subsequent program. The above work will ensure the proper plan is in place when the Town is ready to allow occupancy.

Moving forward with the agriculture component of LaunchIt we will partner with Georgian College, Farm Start and GWBEC for training and other resources.

The Board reviewed the Minto Chamber of Commerce contribution toward wages and felt that it is time to renegotiate the Chamber's portion. Gerber's hours for the Chamber and LaunchIt are 50/50 therefore the LaunchIt Board feels it is reasonable to ask the Minto Chamber to increase their contribution from \$12,000.00 to \$18,500.00. The breakdown of funds will be \$16,500 from the Chamber and \$2,000 from Savour the Flavour in addition to the Town of Minto's contribution of \$25,000.

MOTION:

Moved by: Calvin Frey and 2nd by Bernice Weber Passchier

THAT: LaunchIt will propose to the Minto Chamber of Commerce an increase in their contribution.

CARRIED

Gerber told the Board about the seminar held on September 6, 2016 called "Customizing Your Sales Strategy" with Judi Riddolls. The feedback from this event and speaker was very positive. Gerber added that Riddolls has offered her services to LaunchIt/Minto Businesses at a half price rate of \$50 per hour, charging LaunchIt \$35 per hour. This could be another resource that we can offer businesses through LaunchIt as well as an opportunity to generate some revenue.

The Board heard from Gerber regarding plans for the Live2Lead event on October 7th at the Norgan Theatre.

Sponsors for this event include...

Minto Cultural Roundtable

Minto Chamber of Commerce

Innovative Print

OSiM Interactive

Bosman Home Front

Country 93

Saugeen Economic Development Corp.

Harry Stone's

Tim Horton's – Palmerston

Tickets for this event are going quickly but are available at the Town of Minto, LaunchIt Minto and online at <http://norgantheatre.com/>

The meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

The next LaunchIt Minto meeting will be on October 11, 2016 at 12:00pm LaunchIt Minto.

Somer Gerber, Business Development Coordinator