

September Council Meeting

Stef and Mark Wagner <mama.wags@hotmail.com>

Mon 9/4/2023 11:19 AM

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To whom it may concern:

We are reaching out to council today as representatives of The Temagami Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is at a breaking point. This last year has been very difficult on The Chamber to the point that it may have to fold. Board members have stepped down leaving a strain on the few members left. Financially there is not enough funds to get us through the rest of the year. With Covid and the many previous events not happening as well as now the lack of members to even run events, everything has dwindled.

Kimberly Bricker reached out to friends to try and get some new members. In doing so Stephanie Wagner has now joined The Chamber. Kimberly and Stephanie have taken it upon themselves, with the assistance of what board members are left, to try and run The Wild Game Dinner this coming November 11th. This event helps raise funds for The Chamber which are used for the 1 full time employee and the rent and internet costs at The Chambers location in the local Temagami Train Station. This event generally raises approximately \$7000.00 for the Chamber. We feel if we can make this event happen and have it successful then it will help give us the finances and time to reshape The Chamber and take us into 2024. With the funds we will look to rebuilding the board members and start to work on events for 2024 and better try and serve our members with more bodies on The Chamber board.

What we are asking for is if the municipality could help The Chamber this one time by waving the rental fee for the arena where we would host The Wild Game Dinner. This is equivalent to one months rent at The Chambers location at the train station. This alone would help save us that \$500. With our shortened window to bring this event together we might not make the regular raised funds but we think it is worth the effort to try and save The Chamber.

In closing we believe that the Wild Game Dinner has always been a well celebrated evening and people would welcome it again with open arms. It is an event that brings the community together for a night of good food, music and dance. Please consider waving the fee this one time in effort for us to try and save The Chamber.

We appreciate your time in this consideration

Stephanie Wagner, Kimberly Bricker, Gerry Gooderham, Penny St. Germain and Debbie Morrow