

KLCBT members reflect on successful year

Ehli Dippenaar

MBOMBELA - The Kruger Lowveld Chamber of Business and Tourism (KLCBT) has enjoyed a successful year.

Its president, Oupa Pilane shared some of the highlights of the past year during the annual general meeting at Nou's Toeka on June 14.

The KLCBT had three priorities: its relationship with government, water supply to the region, and safety and security.

It managed to present 17 new ideas to improve local economic development and tourism, compile complete lists of roads in need of maintenance to be taken up with relevant authorities, and launch a corruption awareness survey.

It also intervened in preventing Eskom from cutting power in Mbombela earlier this year, increased its map print run, distributed at KNP gates and KMIA, to 150 000, and achieved phenomenal success at the 2016 and 2017 golf days.

The chamber also presented its audited financial statements. According to Margaret Raubenheimer, who was responsible for auditing, they had a significant increase in income and expenses, and despite the R168 000 loss for the year, the company remains solvent, as profits of the past can carry KLCBT.

The guest speaker was Paul Mullon, who presented a talk on the Protection of Personal Information Act, to educate business owners on how to handle personal information.

"Anyone who submits their personal information may request that it not be shared with anyone for any reason, unless it is for legal purposes.

"Even contracts that state that a company may sell your information will have to be adapted so that clients can opt out."



Paul Mullon, Linda Grimbeeck, Oupa Pilane and TJ Mare.

According to Mullon, there are a few rules companies should follow to ensure they do not infringe upon people's privacy rights:

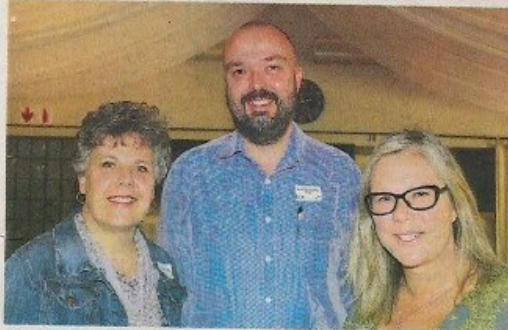
- Only collect it with clear permission - they should know what it will be used for.
- Store it on as few formats as possible - do not copy it to mail, fax, external drive, flash drive, disk, and paper print. Only have it on one place, and a second as backup, maximum.

- Retain it for the time it is used, or as long as needed for auditing/legal reasons. Once it is no longer needed for its intended purpose, destroy it.
- If you need to retain information for records, destroy anything else that may not be necessary. For instance, keep the person's name and contact details, but destroy their ID/passport information, credit card details and so on.
- Do not "sell" anyone's private information unless they have given you permission to do so.

- Keep information secure and safe, using proper encryption software and reputable IT support.

"Clearing your records and decluttering your system of information you no longer need will help your business," he concluded.

"If you can prove that you do not hoard personal information and show that you are handling it with care, those who will scrutinise your business, should you mess up, will be more lenient."



Riana and Dirk Joubert with Sam Bouwer.



Thabo Khoza and Mfundo Maseko.



Andries Oosthuizen, Retha Pelzer and Tony Mancos.



Keith Dyer, James Rice and Trienie Drotschie.



Pieter Erasmus, Adele Potgieter and Eric Kобрinowski.



Doctor Lukhele and Kemiso Kgoala.



Margaret Raubenheimer.