

The mission of the Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce is to promote, educate & support a vital business community while enhancing and nurturing the livability and community connectedness of the area.

Minutes : Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

Current Executive Board Members: President- Josiah Tonder, VP Jeremiah Zahnow, Secretary- Clara Vancura, Treasurer- Denita Wisniewski

Board Members in Attendance: Josiah Tonder, Jeremiah Zahnow, Clara Vancura, Sarah Amundson, Amber Miller, Micki Szech

IN-PERSON at City Hall Wednesday, June 22, 2022 03:30 PM

MEETING

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call:**
2. **Approval of agenda/additions/deletions** - Motion to approve minutes and financial report made by Jeremiah, seconded by Sarah. Motion carried.
3. **Approval of Minutes, addition, Financial Report** – Motion to approve minutes and financial report made by Jeremiah, seconded by Sarah. Motion carried.
 - a. **Finances look good.**
 - b. **Phil recommends we should start looking at budget for next year (specifically r/t to inflation)**
 - i. Questions from group regarding necessity of increasing dues (are our costs increasing?)
 - ii. Tourism membership fee
 - iii. Director Pay
 - iv. LPEDA contract review
4. **Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members:** Lashed & Polish-Grand opening 6/20/22
5. **Presentations:** None currently
6. **Director's Report-**
 - a. Facebook- April/May people like this
 - b. 3,113 people like this = 32 since last meeting, please ask a friend to like our page
 - c. Webpage- Featuring our Own- Spring/Summer events
7. **Old Business**
 - a. Good Morning Breakfast
 - a. At Camp S'Mores June 23rd
 - b. Next in July Camp Hill Village
 - b. Tourism: Welcome guide
 - a. Currently working on distribution with help of Chris Amundson and Work Based Learning
 - c. Concert in the Park- NEXT concerts, Saturday - fundraising update, volunteers needed
 - a. Fist was excellent with >200 people in attendance
 - b. Last week only 80 in attendance
 - d. Prairie Days- Report
 - a. Still have a few invoices for Prairie Day's – mostly advertising
 - b. Donations: received all of the donations needed for coverage
 - c. Volunteers: All covered though one student was ill and unable to come
 - i. Would like to have more "floating" volunteers
 1. 4 total (2 and 2) good to have a pair to help each other out

- 2. Give out phone numbers of floaters to the volunteers
 - ii. Trap shooting team volunteered for the whole day
 - 1. Clara made motion to provide donation to the team of \$200, seconded by Josiah. Motion carried.
- d. Inflation concern: only increased cost this year could potentially be related to ARC electrical service
- e. Earned \$2,047 total
- f. Both food vendors sold out: Char Roe and South Meats North
- g. Ice cream in a different location? Vendor desired to be where he was
- h. Electric
 - i. Have two boards for bands and one by Hart Mall
 - ii. Unable to use extension cords to light poles
 - iii. Will likely be needing to add in more electrical boards in the future (by post office and veteran's services)
- i. Band location
 - i. Potentially farther away from the Reichert?
 - ii. City has approved location and "noise"
- j. Letter to residents/businesses about days/times
- k. Card to disgruntled residents
- l. Additional planning meeting with those who desire to start to plan for next year
- e. Community Gardens- balance, # gardens
 - a. Have a balance of \$200 to the city of Long Prairie
 - b. Have moles in the garden
 - i. May need to hire someone
 - ii. Lu will check with her neighbor
 - c. Number of gardens are down this year

8- New Business

- a. Main Street Revitalization
 - a. Grant obtained for \$493,000 through DEED
 - i. Businesses apply to a review committee
 - 1. Pre-Application coming out June 27th due on July 15th
 - ii. Limited to 71 corridor, main street corridor and close to main street
 - b. Lu planning on handing application out to businesses downtown
 - b. Lu's Vacation: Going to Germany
 - a. August
 - b. Plan to not have board meeting in August
- c. NEW ideas –
 - a. July 27th outdoor meeting – at lake charlotte
 - i. Later than usual time – 5:30PM
 - ii. Bring families
 - iii. Potluck – Lu will send out list
 - b. Discussion of Core Values
 - i. Doing well with Promotion of Chamber Business and Information Hub
 - ii. Do we need to re-visit core values?
 - 1. Yes, review in September with discussion
 - a. Is anything missing?
 - b. What are we already doing?

- c. Where should time be spent for director vs. board members?
- d. Are there any new visions?

9- Adjourn 4:35pm

Our Core Values : Promotion of Chamber Businesses, Leadership Development, Proactive Community Leadership, Information Hub

Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

2022 Strategic Goals

1. Increase Chamber Membership
 - a. Secure **15** new members in either Long Prairie or the surrounding area.
 - b. Show non-members the value of membership by introducing them to the Chamber Website, Facebook page and Membership Benefits flyer.
HOW
2. Retain Current Membership –
 - a. Make members feel valued by visiting and calling. Focus on connecting with at least 5 dormant members each month to check-in and remind them of the available membership benefits.
 - b. Promote and share business events and content via the chamber website, Facebook, GMLP Breakfasts, radio, emails etc.
On going
3. Brand the LPACC as the information Hub of Long Prairie
 - a. Send out **Bi-weekly** emails utilizing direct links for advertisements and events.
On going
 - b. Update the chamber website monthly to ensure it is an efficient and effective way to connect the community with resources
On going
4. Organize Community Development Opportunities
 - a. Facilitate a minimum of 4 classes/workshops per year on various topics. Events can be either in person or virtual.
5. Budget
 - a. Establish a budget committee to meet quarterly to discuss financials.
 - b. Ensure community events are budget positive.