

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: Chair- Josiah Tonder, Vice-Chair Jeremiah Zahnow, Secretary- Clara Vancura, Treasurer- Denita Wisniewski

Board Members: Todd Ecker, Dave Determan, Andy Otremba, Sarah Amundson

Members in Attendance: Josiah T, Clara V, Denita W, Sarah A, Todd E, Jeremiah Z

Director: LuAnn Thomas-Brunkhorst

Guest: Amber Miller, Mikki Czech

IN-PERSON at City Hall Wednesday, (substitute meeting for May 25) June 1, 2022 03:30 PM

MEETING

1-Call to Order/Roll Call: 3:32pm

2- Approval of agenda: Motion to approve made by Clara, Second by Denita; motion carried

3- Approval of Minutes, Financial Report: Motion to approve made by Jeremiah, Second by Todd; motion carried

-About 10 Business have still yet to pay their Dues.

-Fundraising for Prairie Days has gone well and we are fully funded.

4- Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members: Penny M (Barbershop)

5- Presentations:

Tourism – welcome guide coming out soon

EDA – LP EDA along with Todd County EDA are looking into a childcare center, working with multiple local business's

-Potential cost of 1.2 to 1.5 million for renovation for a portion of CentraCare West Campus (60-80 children)

-Also looking at cost and option for a new building

6- Director's Report-

Facebook- April/May people like this

3,081 people like this = 77 since last meeting, please ask a friend to like our page

Webpage- Featuring our Own- Spring/Summer events

7- Old Business

a. Vote in New board members: Mikki (Prairie Ridge Inn), Amber (Hometown Abstract)

a. **Motion to approve made by Jeremiah, Second by Denita; motion carried**

b. Good Morning Breakfast -NEXT June 23

a. Last May 26th at the Great River Regional Library

- i. 17 people in attendance
 - ii. Currently looking for prizes for kids during summer reading program
 - iii. GRRL was satisfied with the service because the timing coincided with the start of their Summer Reading Program
 - b. Please read article by Sowmya about Good Morning Breakfast posted on website
- c. Tourism: Welcome guide - coming June 8
 - a. Completed and PDF will be sent out soon
 - b. Have a plan for distribution with help from Cris Amundson
- d. Concert in the Park-
 - a. volunteers needed – two at each concert to count attendance and help pick up donations
 - b. Fundraising still needed \$2,100
 - c. Discussion regarding availability of donations outside of cash
 - i. Venmo
 - ii. Square
- e. Harmony Park –
 - a. Fundraising still needed \$2,500
- f. Prairie Days- Fundraising update,
 - a. Volunteers are still needed
 - i. Work based learning still need to be contacted
 - b. T-shirts are available – Please send Lu the size you would like
- g. Community Gardens-
 - a. Balance still due to City of Long Prairie - \$247
 - b. Currently only 26 gardens spoken for (56 open still)

8- New Business

- a. Summer Refresh-
 - a. Conference report – tabled until next meeting
- b. Mobile app-
 - a. A city app which includes events, maps, locations and other areas
 - b. Cost is \$2,500 annually plus set-up fee
- c. EDA Contract 2022
 - a. Discussion to continue
 - b. Extension of current contract for six months
 - c. Motion made by Jeremiah to propose and extension of the current contract for six months. Second by Sara. Motion Carried
 - d. Goal to review contract again during budgeting.
 - i. Should the cost of service change?
 - ii. Review potential for director pay raise (living wage)

9- Adjourn 4:47pm

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.