

The mission of the Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce is to promote Chamber members while enhancing the livability and connectedness of the community.

AGENDA : Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

Current Executive Board Members: Chair- Josiah Tonder, Vice Chair- Jeremiah Zahnow, Secretary-Treasurer- Denita Wisniewski

Board Members: Todd Ecker, Andy Otremba, Chris Amundson, Micki Czech, Amy Allen

Absent: Jeremiah Zahnow, Andy Otremba, Chris Amundson, Amy Allen

Visitors: Dallas Nelson

Introduction of the City Administrator - Candace Bruder - Candace worked at the City of Osakis as a deputy clerk, and has worked at the City of Long Prairie for the past 4 years.

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 – Monthly MEETING 03:30 PM @ City Hall

MEETING

1-Call to Order/Roll Call: 3:30 by Josiah

2- Approval of agenda/additions/deletions

No additions or deletions

Motion to approve: Todd Seconded by: Denita Approved

3- Approval of Minutes, additions

No changes

Motion to approve: Todd Seconded by: Denita Approved

4- Financial Report

* Bills paid out for Prairie Days in May.

* Dues yet to be paid are \$4,865. May have 5 or 6 that may not renew because Lu has not have any communication with them. Lu will get the numbers together for those that she feels are not going to renew and where we are with those who have not paid. \$92,000 balance in the accounts including the CD's. Lu will give Prairie Days report in July.

Motion to approve: Todd Seconded by: Denita Approved

5- Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members:

- Karina's Creations: She makes cakes and pastries. Also balloons and flowers. She will also delivery.

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6- Director's Report-

Webpage- Rick's retirement

- **City webpage - Rick's retirement and Enterprise Academy**

7- Old Business

Chamber/Tourism Event reports & updates:

Networking events- tomorrow- Camphill hosting – who can come?

- 16 people are coming - a good sampling area business representatives. Board Members attending: Denita - Bus leaves at 11:40 from the library and return about 1:45

Prairie Days report

- Lu will give full financial in July.

Pre- Parade activities Part 1: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.784915447119333&type=3>

Pre- Parade activities Part 2: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.785160763761468&type=3>

Parade: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.785482027062675&type=3>

Concert in the Park – July 11, July 18, July 25, August 1 & August 8 – see attached

- Running very well. Took in \$655 for the Monroe Crossing for the free will offering.
- * July 25th - Is at the Chevez Event Center. \$25 per ticket. Working on marketing - on Facebook, sent email to all of the music departments in the state.

Tourism update: Banners DONE & video banner in the process

- Working with Nic Saarella to get banners on 287 with Thor.
- During Prairie Days, a drone went over Long Prairie for the video banner.

New hire & Work Based Learning students – updates/report

- Daniella is doing very well. Created the Register to Vote poster. She speaks English and Spanish so did the posters are in both language. She has been helpful. She will be taking pictures at Camphill Village. Work based learning are awesome, they painted the benches, helped at Prairie Days and the Senior Center garage sale. They will go out to Harmony Park to trim.

By-laws review - add email voting EXAMPLE c) If authorized by the statute under which the association is created, and to the extent not limited or prohibited by the articles of incorporation, bylaws, or declaration, the entire vote on any single issue (except the election of directors), or issues may be taken by electronic means or by mailed ballots, subject ...

- Lu will shoot an email to our members regarding if they have added electronic voting on their bi-laws.

WAVE Saludos Welcome Center update- Non-profit report

- Spoke with the lawyer, Welcome Center will be an official non-profit. Approximately \$14,000 - 15,000 in grants every year. Sourcewell has told them that they are worth funding with the non-profit status.

8- New Business

Vote in New Chamber board member (?)

- Toby Polkinhorn – from Central-Bi Products

Motion to approve: Denita Seconded by: Todd Approved

Next meeting location - Lake Charlotte or Harmony & August meeting canceled (vacation)

- July 24th - maybe make it a snack potluck.
- August - Lu will be in Germany for the month of August - no meeting in August

9- Adjourn Our Core Values :

Promoting and connecting Chamber Members

Information and Resource Hub

Community enhancement

Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

2024 Strategic Goals

Increase Chamber Membership

Secure 10 new members in either Long Prairie or the surrounding area.

Show non-members the value of membership by introducing them to the Chamber Website, Facebook page and Membership Benefits flyer.

Retain Current Membership –

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.

On going

Promote and share business events and content via the chamber website, Facebook, GMLP Breakfasts, radio, emails etc.

On going

Brand the LPACC as the information Hub of Long Prairie

Send out **Bi-weekly** emails utilizing direct links for advertisements and events.

On going

Update the chamber website monthly to ensure it is an efficient and effective way to connect the community with resources

On going

Organize Community Development Opportunities

Facilitate a minimum of 3 classes/workshops per year on various topics. Events can be either in person or virtual.

Budget

Establish a budget committee to meet quarterly to discuss financials.
Ensure community events are budgeted in the positive.