

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.

## Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, September 13, 2016 4:30 pm City Hall

Current Board Members: President- Tamie Barber, VP- RaeAnn Waytashek, Secretary- Clara Vancura, Treasurer- Ted Gray, Todd Ecker, David Determan, Denita Wisniewski, Peg Churchwell, Kelly Peterson and Clara Vancura

**1- Call to Order/Roll Call** call to order at 4:30PM by: RaeAnn Waytashek, second by: David Determan

**2- Approval of agenda/additions/deletions**

Agenda Approval Motion by: David Determan

Agenda Additions Motion by: No additions

Agenda Deletions Motion by: No deletions

**3- Approval of Minutes & Financial Report- requires a motion**

Approval of Minutes by: David Determan, vote yes by all in attendance, motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report by: No questions. Motion by David D and second by RaeAnn W, vote yes by all in attendance, motion carried.

**4- Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members:** La Voz Libre (ads for membership), Assembly of God, Philips Repairables, Jenkins Iron and Steel and Independent Solutions a Small Business Consultant

Possible members: Saddle Club?? Headquarters??

Suggestions: Gould Brothers

**5- Tourism Report**— about 265 these past 3 months. Much help from a community member for community service hours .

**6- EDA Report—Government Report-** City, County, School. None present.

**7- Presentations**— None at this meeting.

**8- Director's Report-**

Facebook- August 829 LIKES= increase of 58 since last meeting, ask a friend to like our page

Website visits- Page View –Week about 1600-2100 (Featuring our Own- Service Organizations

Pastimes and Drive-In) Lu will be checking on how the “clicks”/page views are counted.

Publicity/Advertising- Who's Who – see below

Dairyland Peach and Northerly Neighbors – within budget and coming out next week.

Staples Men's Chorus \$150 – Question about putting in an ad for 150\$. Do we have the money in the advertising budget? Yes, if there is money available in the budget. Believe there is currently 500\$ left. If there is nothing left Lu will send an email to the board.

Chamber Directory- similar to Who's Who Obtaining a quote for a directory. A good idea. Is there a way we can utilize the internet/computer more. Todd would be the one to interview and write the small blurbs. Possibly obtain a PDF to embed into the website. Possibly something to see about in the future with someone who is wanting community service hours. Thinking about the ease of use and who will see/use the directory and that may be more beneficial online. NJPA for student to help with this project (Sarah R.). Potential area for additional revenue as well for additional cost in order to have the written area.

Advertising - La Voz Libre - every month \$15.00 ad which equals membership

## 9- Old Business

- a. Chamber Bucks - expiration and description- Reviewed with present board. Comment to add a sentence to check the website for a listing of chamber members. Question about checks and an expiration date– wording recommended “Please use before \_\_\_\_”. Lu will ask Kelly and Denita for the length of time recommended prior to expiration.

## 10- New Business

- a. Homecoming Parade judges and prizes - see attachment. Continuing to obtain additional prizes. Currently have 7 judges for the parade.
- b. Certificate of Origin- See attachment. They just want to know if we have the certificate and if we do fill it out. Something that we can potentially put on a list for our members.
- c. Hours- see attachment. 8:30 until 2PM all days but Friday 8:30 until Noon
- d. October/November days off- October 31-Nov 2. Will not be at the Halloween party. Peg has leftover orange bags. Peg will be giving Lu the poster from last year.
- e. Wake up! Alexandria- Good Morning Long Prairie! – Many requests from our members to have networking opportunities. Potential starting in January and try it, probably monthly rather than quarterly for people to get into the “habit” of it. Prefer not Friday. In favor for monthly with cost to host of \$50. Based upon the Wake Up Alexandria outline.
- f. Welcome Wagon/Bag/Basket- quote & committee? Coupon book for those visiting town featuring chamber members. Quote from the Leader -- \$260 for the initial computer set-up for 100 booklets. Welcome books as well as those hired by chamber members to give to their new employee's. Or sponsorship from business's. Lu will speak with Tami and Peg will contact Lu about feasibility. Could we get another quote/estimate to print and make the books? (Cathedral Press, RR Donnelly)
- g. T-Shirts/Long sleeves/Hoodies?? See attachment- Long Prairie for Chamber Board members. Dark shirt to Lu by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- h. Prairie Days NEXT year – Since it is our first year maybe starting out with for sure our board and those who have a strong interest and we know would be willing to do the work as well. Possibly bring the WHOLE board together for decision making. Special sessions to start discussion of Prairie Days –October 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm with board members, Devin will check

with the city, Board members may invite someone to attend who would be good on a committee. Lu will send out an email to the board. Ordering burritos – everyone bring 5\$

- Committee --
- Placement in town --
- Parade – Lions in charge?
- Ideas meeting with the community - Facilitator present. Jason Sellnow said he would be a facilitator. Sounds like a good idea. Get all excited about the ideas and then assign to committees.

Discussion of sidewalk clean up. Will need to talk more about that in the future.

**11- Adjourn** Our Core Values : Meeting adjourned at 5:59PM. Motioned by David and second by RaeAnn, all in favor motion carried.

-Promotion of Chamber Businesses

-Leadership Development

-Proactive Community Leadership

-Information Hub