

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

CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING August 8, 2017 4:30 pm at CITY HALL

Current Board Members: President- Kelly Peterson VP- Denita Wisniewski, Secretary- Clara Vancura, Treasurer- Ted Gray, Todd Ecker, Dave Determan, Peg Churchwell, Andy Otremba, Teresa Sorenson and Clara Vancura

1- Call to Order/Roll Call 4:345PM

2- Approval of agenda/additions/deletions Motion by Teresa S. and second by Andy O.

3- Approval of Minutes, Financial Report – Motion by Andy O. and second by Teresa S.

4- Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members:

Hockey Assn is becoming a member.

Possible members: Dragon Willow Winery, Everybody's Market and possibly Midway

Suggestions:

5- Tourism Report—

6- EDA Report—Government Report- City, County, School

7- Presentations—

8- Director's Report-

Facebook- July LIKES 1153 = increase of 35 since last meeting, ask a friend to like our page

Featuring our Own- Vision Plan for Downtown- Survey www.longprairie.net due August 11th and Listening Session August 16

Downtown revitalization steering committee meeting tonight, 8.8.17

Mosaic project unveiling – over 300 community members participated, Unveiling this Saturday August 12th

Publicity/Advertising- decreasing with many of the summer events are now done

9- Old Business

a. PRAIRIE DAYS

1. Date for Next year?? 1st weekend in August

- a. Many conflicts for this year with various other things going on with Fathers day weekend and June does usually have more rain than August
 - b. Looking at next year –
 - i. two other events already scheduled for the 1st weekend in August with potential to incorporate into Prairie Days, National Night Out and Clotho Church Fundraiser. Lu is going to reach out to Deb Goodrich who spear heads National Night Out to discuss.
 - ii. Last weekend in June recommended – will be the Swanville Carnival for 2018 so leaning away from that weekend as a possibility
 - iii. Discussion of the Wellness Fair and if it will be during Prairie Days, Peg unsure if CentraCare will want to change the date of the fair
 - c. Focus on quality vs. Quantity and making sure that there are specific ideas with great follow through rather than having multiple activities spread out over town
 - d. Slight discussion about Color Run
2. Meeting with Tourism
- a. Lu will be speaking with Barb about the ideas discussed this evening
- b. MS TRAM- report : successes, challenges, things to do better
- a. Good feedback from the community restaurants on Main
 - b. Good report from a bicyclist who said that the Long Prairie stop was “the best”, another said that it was “the most welcoming” and very much liked the complete streets walk through
 - c. Challenge for clean up – not quite enough people. Additional helpers were called in for the
 - d. Breakfast on Thursday -- not enough signs or hand-outs for breakfast. Hockey Assn. earned less than was expected as it was not as well attended.
 - e. Full Report to come from Lu
- c. Set date for Good Morning Long Prairie
- a. Networking Breakfast – 7:30-8:30 AM
 - b. September 21st 2017
 - c. Lu send out invitations/outline of Breakfast to all business’s, placed in newspaper as well
 - d. Delivery of invitations for chamber and non-chamber business’s by Chamber Board Members
- d. Moving forward with Welcome discount packet
- a. Moving forward with ideas for business and advertising
 - i. Review of pricing for advertising
 - b. Connection with a community member who wants to welcome new families into the community – through real estate agents, Larger Companies in Long Prairie and School’s
 - c. Discussed with Athletic Director of LPGE High School who had no issues with this idea

10- New Business

- a. John Howard would like to join the Chamber Board member, discussion, vote & photos

- a. Treasurer of the Big Lake Chamber of Commerce for two terms
- b. Vote: Motion by Teresa to vote on John joining the chamber board, second by Peg C., vote to approve passed with all in favor
- b. By-laws and Handbook review
 - a. Lu is going to review for next meeting with highlights on potential changes
 - b. Specific to look at the ethics and board commitment
- c. Chamber Board meeting time?? Change till later??
 - a. Request to change from current time to later for business owners to attend more easily
 - b. Discussion: other meetings at 6PM, Board members may have a difficult time, hard at times to have later in the evenings, Question for if during lunch times is possible, it is an open meeting and a representative is always welcome to come if the business owner itself cannot attend, asking member's when they would be able to attend, asking business's when being invited to the "Good Morning Long Prairie"
 - c. Survey and asking for dates the next step
- d. Director's overtime hours - 6 hours in June
 - a. Motion made by Peg C to accept, second by Clara V, vote to approve passed with all in favor
- e. Vacation- August 20- Sept 1

- f. **11- Adjourn** Motion made by Clara V to adjourn, second by Peg C , motion carried 5:36PM

Our Core Values :

- Promotion of Chamber Businesses
- Leadership Development
- Proactive Community Leadership
- Information Hub