

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 November 14, 2017 4:30 pm at CITY HALL

Current Board Members: President- Kelly Peterson VP- Denita Wisniewski, Secretary- Clara Vancura, Treasurer- Ted Gray, John Howard, Todd Ecker, Dave Determan, Peg Churchwell, Andy Otremba, Teresa Sorenson (highlighted indicates presence at this meeting)

1- Call to Order/Roll Call – Meeting called to order at 4:37 PM by Kelly P.

2- Approval of agenda/additions/deletions – Motion made by Todd E. to approve, Andy O second, motion carried

3- Approval of Minutes - Motion made by Todd E. to approve, Andy O second, motion carried

Financial Report– Continue to be on budget at this time for the 2017 fiscal year. Motion made by Teresa Sorenson, Todd E second, motion carried

4- Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members: Long Prairie Hockey Association & Vanguard insurance

Possible members that have been contacted: Mathew Brieter, Tabbot Pumpkin Farm, Cherry Grove Market, Panther Distillery, Midway Bar and Grill, Lopez Grocery Store

5- Tourism Report— Continues to be 20-25 requests weekly

6- EDA Report—Government Report- City, County, School – City personnel not present at this meeting

7- Presentations— None at this meeting.

8- Director's Report-

Facebook- October LIKES 1234 = 42 since last meeting, please ask a friend to like our page

Featuring our Own: Career Fair & Bright Light festivities

Publicity/Advertising for November- Career Fair & Bright light

Website: 2000 views a week

9- Old Business

- a. PRAIRIE DAYS - moving forward
 - a. Continuing to collect ideas
 - b. Delegation of games
 - c. Separate meeting may be needed to have additional time to discuss
- b. Good Morning Long Prairie – report
 - a. VERY good turnout to the October “Good Morning Long Prairie”, 30-35 attendee’s, LSC Communications was a great host, Hilltop Kitchen was the non-profit supported
 - b. Next breakfast host will be CentraCare Health Long Prairie on January 18th at 7:30AM

- c. Halloween Trick-or-Treat Downtown/HWY- report
 - a. Went well this year
 - b. Called over 200 people for participation
 - c. Participating business's increased by 20
 - d. 561 Trick-or-Treaters counted in the downtown area
 - e. Numbers were down in the downtown area by 120 people
 - f. Did decrease cost by not printing sheets for student's backpacks, may need to do next year though as numbers were down
- d. Career Fair-
 - a. Had the most careers and schools represented this year, 62 groups
 - b. All of the participating groups that returned survey's stated that they would return
 - c. Participation of the students continues to be variable
 - d. Will be having a review with Jonathan Young from LPGE for next year's career fair.
- e. Bright Light parade and festivities
- f. Christmas vacation
 - a. December 17th to January 5th
 - b. All chamber members were informed and encouraged to send in notices and chamber buck desires ASAP

10- New Business

- a. Budget
 - a. Looking at a \$9,493 deficit for the 2018 budget
 - b. increase membership dues?
 - i. Would need to charge an additional dollar a month for all members to cut the deficit in half.
 - ii. Lu will discuss with Phil on needs in budget and amount to increase for members
 - c. Fundraiser
 - i. Administrative fee for chamber buck's over \$100 a 2% fee
 - ii. Prairie Day's
 - 1. Artists/Vendors
 - 2. Raffle – suggestion of cash prize, need a gambling license for that
 - 3. Street Dance – most do not make money and just break even
 - 4. Dunking Booth – continue
 - 5. "Bucking Bull" –
 - iii.
- b. set annual meeting
 - a. Lu is going to send out three potential dates to members as a poll to increase participation
 - b. Entertainment: Awards, Speaker, Music (LPCO)
 - c. After hours networking/Annual meeting
 - d. Prefer to keep it with a sit-down dinner

11- Adjourn -- Motion to adjourn made by Todd E, Andy O second, motion carried with meeting adjourned at 5:38PM

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