

Minutes

Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING January 9, 2019, 4:30 pm at City Hall

Current Executive Board Members: President- Kelly Samuelson VP- Denita Wisniewski, Secretary- Clara Vancura, Treasurer- Ted Gray

Board Members: John Howard, Todd Ecker, Dave Determan, Misty Lemke, Andy Otremba, Teresa Sorenson
Present Board Members: Denita Wisniewski, Clara Vancura, Ted Gray, Dave Determan, Misty Lemke, Teresa Sorenson, Andy Otremba, John Howard

Chamber Director Luan Thomas-Brunkhorst present

Visitors in attendance: Stephanie Och, Ashley Behagg, Phil Gould, Dave Vanekamp, Rick Utech, Jodi Dixon, Guadalupe Orozco, John Kringen , Eric Streed, Lisa Streed

1- Call to Order/Roll Call: Meeting was called to order by Denita W. at 4:33 PM

2- Approval of agenda/additions/deletions: Motion to approve agenda by David D., second by Ted G., motion carried

3- Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve November minutes by Dave D., second by John., motion carried
Motion to approve December minutes by Dave D., second by John., motion carried

4- Financial Report- Financial report given by Phil. Motion to approve by Ted G., second by Teresa S., motion carried

5- Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members: na

Possible members:

Team 261 – contacted	Benning Printing	Askamit Transportation
Osakis Resort – yes	St. John Vianny	8’s Bowling
Daybreak Foods	Pan de Vida	Christie House
Countryside Restaurant	Legend Kutz	Bargain Barn
NEW craft store in town (husband is owner of Page 1)	Sauk Centre Main Street Theater	Todd County Wadena Electric KW Keller Williams Realty
ARC Electric	Prairie Pharmacy	

6- Tourism Report— Concert in the Park update – tourism board is still looking for someone or an organization to take the concern series over. Contact Eric if interested.

Tourism board overview - works on the city map, tourism brochure, ads with Explore Minnesota (in Spring, Summer and Fall – not in winter due to lack of events in the area). In 2018, 818 brochures were requested – chamber website it what is linked to for requested – call to action ads. Also in 2018, Tourism did a promo with the golf course.

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

Dave Venekamp interim City of Long Prairie Administrator – City will be looking for a new administrator within the next few months.

Jodi Dixon – new mayor of Long Prairie. Also, manager of senior center. Her door is always open.

Rick Utech – Todd County Development Corporation. Community and Business development corporation.

Jon Kringen – LPGE School superintendent. Enrollment is increasing. Budget is very good.

8- Director's Report-

Facebook- December/January 1581=15 since last meeting, please ask a friend to like our page

Website: 5600 Page views, 2100 unique visits in last 30 days

Publicity/Advertising- Mid-Winterfest, Date: Saturday, February 23, 2019

9- Old Business

- a. PRAIRIE DAYS - DATE set June 1-2. Motion to approve by Ted G., second by Teresa S., motion carried
- b. Knights of Columbus and Baptist Church will be assisting/offering volunteers
Please note: Todd County Fair is June 26-20, 2019. Browerville Days and Swanville are also that weekend.
- c. Good Morning Breakfast- January 17, 2018 at Senior Center 7:30am – Host Chandler Industries, Veteran's Services are the non-profit of choice. Tours of the new robotic section at Chandler Industries may be offered. Denita, Teresa, Misty, Ashley, Andy, etc. are planning to be in attendance.
- d. Talent Advantage Series- January 11, 2019 meeting with Initiative Foundation and Rural MN CEP
Rep Ron Kresha will be in attendance. Topics: Workforce challenge, attraction, training, retention, daycare and housing.
- e. Career Advising for LPGE – Meeting January 29, 2019 with Rural MN CEP, Chamber and Jon Young
With the help of Sourcewell, hoping to get a career advisor at the school. Apply for a grant, 80% would be paid for by grant, 20% would need to be school funded. Part-time to start, full-time potential.
- f. Fundraiser- Annual Banquet fundraiser:
Fundraiser- Annual Banquet fundraiser, Name: Mid-Winterfest, Date: Saturday, February 23, 2019
There will be grilled/smoked chicken, potato choice, vegetable and smores (using roasting sticks) for dessert.
Activities: Winter bowling from 1 – 4pm (Thunder Lodge will be organizing) Hammerschlagen, bonfire and music... MORE INFO TO COME
- g. Executive board nominees: Clara Vancura, president; Denita Wisniewski, vice president; Misty Lemke, secretary; and Teddy Gray, Treasurer until June 2019 will be end of term. Teresa S made motion to elect executive board nominees as stated, second by John H, motion carried.
Possible board member candidates: Stephanie Och, Ashley Behagg, Barb Neumann. Interested persons were encouraged to attend next board meeting to ask questions and provide answer if desire to be on the board.
- h. Membership renewal- \$15, 000 collected in renewals so far

10- New Business

- a. NEW Computer
 - a. Current computer is no longer able to update
 - b. Recommendation from board to receive quotes on updating or replacing computer through Chamber Business's (AJ Peter's computers and Impact Technology)
- b. Fundraising possibilities
 - a. Mid-Winterfest is the current focus for fundraising
 - b. Chamber Director reaching out to Chamber Member Dragon Willow Winery as well as additional local spirit maker Panther Distillery

11- Adjourn at 5:40 PM