

## **Marion County Chamber of Commerce**

### **Board of Directors' Meeting**

**July 21, 2022**

The Marion County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met on July 21, 2022 at noon CDT at the Western Sizzlin in Jasper. The following board members were present: Sonya Walker-McShan, Vicki Messer, Erik McDaniel, Joyce Burkhalter, Carmen O'Hagan and Travis Hickman. Mike Birdwell was also in attendance having been appointed by President O'Hagan as an interim board member to replace Shelby Potterfield. Board member Donna Sartin joined the meeting via facebook, making a quorum in order to take votes.

Also in attendance were Michael O'Hagan with O'Hagan Law, Jim Willingham with Cable Time, Richard Tate and Margaret Foster with "Nurture the Next" and Judy Blevins, Administrative Assistant for the Chamber.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Joyce Burkhalter and seconded by Eric McDaniel to accept the minutes from the June 16, 2022 board meeting. Motion carried without dissent. A copy of the minutes is on file in the chamber office.

#### **Financial Report:**

In the absence of treasurer Dave Pestillo, Judy Blevins presented the following financial reports: "Banking Summary – June 2022" and "Account Balances as of 7/20/2022". Also presented was a breakdown of income and expenses from the 2022 Chamber Golf Tournament. Motion was made by Joyce Burkhalter and seconded by Travis Hickman to accept the financial report as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the all financial reports listed is on file with the minutes.

#### **Mayor's Report**

No mayor was present at today's meeting.

#### **Old Business**

- Golf Tournament 2022

See income and expenses sheet presented as part of the financial report. All income has been received and all expenses paid. Megan Gibson with Colonial Chemical will be assisting in compiling a wrap-up to be shared through the chamber's email distribution list. In addition to income and expenses, this report will include a listing of all sponsors.

- Spencer Wayne Small Business Grants

An updated report as of 7/18/22 was presented. Four of the approved grant projects have been completed and paid as agreed upon. Two approved projects are still outstanding – Marion County Libraries and Raulston Woods and Gardens. See report on file with the minutes.

- Advertising and Funding Budget

Committee has not met. No report given.

- 2022 Annual Chamber Banquet

The annual banquet is scheduled for Thursday evening, August 18, 2022, beginning at 6:00 PM CDT, at Pat's Summitt Pavilion at Jasper Highlands. Top of the Rock is catering. Board members were given their instruction sheet and list of contacts to sell tickets by August 4<sup>th</sup>. Tickets remain at \$50 this year. Any tickets sold after August 4<sup>th</sup> will need to come from the chamber office. It was announced that Patrick Core with WDEF-TV in Chattanooga will be the guest speaker. Keith Smith will be the DJ for the evening.

The chamber is also receiving nominations for citizen of the year and business of the year (small, medium and large). Winners will be announced at the annual banquet.

### **New Business**

- Nomination to Replace Shelby Potterfield on the Chamber Board – Interim Position

Because board member Shelby Potterfield has moved residency out of county, President O'Hagan has appointed Mike Birdwell as Interim Board Member until new board members are elected at the annual banquet.

Travis Hickman has agreed to be the chamber president effective at the annual chamber meeting on August 18, 2022. Mandy Finotti has agreed to become President Elect for fiscal 2022/23.

- Request for Donation – Tennessee River Rescue

The chamber has received a letter requesting a donation for the 34<sup>th</sup> annual Tennessee River Rescue to be held on October 1, 2022. Joyce Burkhalter made a motion that the chamber make a \$300 t-shirt donation. Travis Hickman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. See letter on file with the minutes

- Request for Ad in the Marion County News Football Insert

The chamber has received a request to place an ad in an upcoming Marion County News football insert. See letter on file with the minutes. Projected date for publication is August 16, 2022. Sonya McShan made a motion which was seconded by Donna Sartin to place a ¼ page ad in the amount of \$225. Following discussion about the need for a long term plan for ad's and donations in keeping with the chamber's purpose, the motion was approved without dissent. The advertising and funding budget committee will meet to develop a plan for the next fiscal year with consideration to other advertising venues. Travis Hickman was also asked to submit advertising options from the radio station for a year.

There was discussion about the format and message of the football ad.

Note: After the meeting, Carmen O'Hagan created an ad to be used. See copy on file with the minutes.

### **Membership Application**

The following membership applications have been received:

- The People's Pharmacy – See application on file with the minutes.
- "Nurture the Next" – See application on file with the minutes.
- Dr. Cari Beth Page – See application on file with the minutes.

Eric McDaniel made a motion to accept the membership request from The People's Pharmacy and "Nurture the Next". The motion included tabling the application of Dr. Page so that we could clarify her desire to be an individual member rather than to be included under the umbrella of her employer who is already a member (Erlanger). Sonya McShan agreed to speak with Dr. Page and to report back to the board. Donna Sartin seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Note: Sonya McShan reported that she and Dr. Page discussed membership categories. Dr. Page fully understands the choices and wishes to become a member under category #5 for business and professional persons such as doctors.

### **Miscellaneous Business/Sharing**

President Carmen O'Hagan mentioned that she had been contacted by a representative of Johnson Mental Health Center who is looking for support/funds for a mental health counselor in the local school system, grades 1 – 7. If anyone or business is interested in supporting this cause, please see President O'Hagan, and she can provide additional information.

It was announced that the next chamber coffee is being hosted by Hospice of Chattanooga on August 9<sup>th</sup> at their Jasper office. See attached invitation. It was also announced that there will

be a ceremony on the courthouse square on Monday at 10:00 AM to call attention to human trafficking and what can be done to prevent and/or report it. See attached.

Also attached is the schedule for 2022 – 2023 Chamber Career Days Program. Anyone interested in participating should contact Dave Pestillo. See flyer attached.

The meeting was adjourned until the next scheduled board meeting which will be the Annual Banquet on August 18<sup>th</sup> at Jasper Highlands. No noon meeting in August.

September Board Meeting will be on Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, at noon at the Western Sizzlin.