

## **MARION COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES . 11/16/23**

The Marion County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met on November 16, 2023, at noon CST at the Western Sizzlin in Jasper, TN.

Mandy Finotti asked for a roll call.

**Board of Directors present:** President Mandy Finotti, Travis Hickman, Vicki Messer, Curtis Spangler, Staci Brockwell, Sonya McShan, Erik McDaniel, Trey Chance, Joyce Burkhalter.

Board Coordinator present: Cindy Hopkins

**Guests in attendance:** Alli Johnson with Colonial, Donald Case with Air Solutions, Zoey and Joshua Evans with Dragon Tech IT Services,

A quorum of board members was present for the meeting.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mandy Finotti asked for a motion to approve the minutes from November 2023, Joyce Burkhalter motioned first, and Sonya McShan seconded.

All in favor unanimous, all opposed none.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mandy Finotti read the report due to Dave Pestillo not being present. Cindy Hopkins and Dave Pestillo reconciled all accounts through the end of October. He said Financial reports were all in order and provided two reports for the meeting: "Banking Summary – October 2023" and "Account Balances as of August 2023". The checking account is at \$32,002.49, the CD account is at \$26,603.00, and is in a 7-month CD at 5.01%. The grant account has \$5283.00, and the credit card account is reconciled and up to date. Membership is reconciled as well. The 2022/2023 membership income was \$19,580, the 2023/2024 membership is currently at \$23,050. The expectation was \$28,575 if the old membership had 100% renewal. We are still seeing the benefits of the membership dues increase.

Mandy Finotti asked for a motion to approve the financial report, Joyce Burkhalter motioned first, and Erik McDaniel seconded.

All in favor unanimous, all opposed none.

Each Board member present received a copy of the financial reports.

#### **MAYORS REPORT**

None present.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Website and IT Committee: Dave Pestillo is head of this committee and with him not present at this meeting today, we decided to wait until after the new year to make this final decision.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Membership** – Staci Brockwell was curious about the membership committee protocol for new member reviews. Joyce Burkhalter said she does not believe there is a written criteria for this currently, and it is not stated in the by-laws. Erik McDaniel said the membership committee should come up with criteria, and that the membership committee recommends that person to the Board. Staci reiterated that all new applicants will go to the membership committee, and the committee will then present the applicants to the board.

All in favor unanimous, all opposed none.

- **Career Days** – The Next Career Day date is December 15<sup>th</sup> in Whitwell.
- **Small Events Committee** – Amy Pilgrim was not present. Mandy Finotti spoke regarding the SANTA CAUSE event. Cindy Hopkins mentioned there are currently 13 non-profits attending. Mandy Finotti mentioned it will be held as an open house on 12/5/23 at Arts In the Burg. There will be a Santa Cause tree; when you choose a wish list item you get a keepsake Marion County ornament. As long as the organization services Marion County they are welcome to attend. There will be hors d’oeuvres, a cash donation bar, and a 50/50 raffle to help keep costs down. We will need approval to purchase ornaments. Can that be done by an e-vote? The Board answered yes.
- Mandy Finotti asked that the Annual Banquet discussion start soon.

## Membership Applications

- Paige Mashburn (individual) - approved
- Cedar and Co. Mercantile in South Pittsburg - approved
- Blue Violet Home Care in Jasper -approved

Is there a discussion: Yes, Erik McDaniel asked if Paige Mashburn was applying as Clerk and Master or as an individual. Erik McDaniel asked where this Chamber stood on government officials being members. Joyce Burkhalter stated that this Chamber has never had a government official as a member, simply due to politics.

All in favor unanimous, all opposed none.

## **Miscellaneous and sharing from community partners**

Mike Birdwell spoke about the upcoming holiday events at SVEC.

Joshua Evans spoke about what Dragon Tech would like to offer the Chamber members. There was a discussion about how to move forward with these learning events. Mike Birdwell suggested that Dragon Tech could put together a 10-minute presentation as an example. Mandy Finotti suggested a new committee be formed to discuss this further. Trey Chance will head this committee with Joshua Evans, Zoey Evans, Crystal Spangler, and Mandy Finotti. There will be a 10-minute presentation at the December 14<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Sonya McShan mentioned the Chamber Retreat, dates will be discussed and a Friday afternoon has been decided on.

Sonya McShan invited everyone to a mixer at Manchester Airport. This event is a kickoff to the 35<sup>th</sup> year of the Manchester Chamber.

Mandy Finotti mentioned the dates of upcoming Christmas parades in Marion County.

## **Upcoming Chamber Events**

- 11/28/23 - Chamber Coffee Event and SVEC Silent Auction
- 12/5/23 – Santa Cause Event at Arts In The Burg
- 12/15/23 – Career Days at Whitwell
- 12/21/23 – Chamber Board meeting
- 1/8/23 - Lunch and Learn Event – Roberts Rules at Arts in The Burg

Cindy Hopkins mentioned that there are two potential Ribbon Cuttings in December. One on 12/12/23 and the other on 12/14/23. With Cedar and Co Mercantile being approved we will be doing their Ribbon Cutting on 12/12 at 4:30 pm. Mandy Finotti asked if 12/21/23 is an issue for anyone for the next Board meeting. Due to wanting to have a quorum and as much attendance as possible, should there be a date change? Vicki Messer motioned that the date be changed to 12/14/23 at the same place, same time. Staci Brockwell seconded.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Erik McDaniel motioned first to adjourn, and Sonya McShan seconded.

All in favor unanimous, all opposed none.