

## Albion Chamber of Commerce-Board Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2024

*Members Present: Sandy Petrie, Kim Baumgartner (who has replaced Mariah Keirn), Steve Hook, Amy Leedy, Melissa Wellman, Pattie Gatman, Jordan Hartleroad, Chad Dull*

*Absent: Ashley Peterson*

*Votes are unanimous unless noted otherwise*

**Meeting was called to order** at the Fox Den by Pattie at 5:30 pm

**Minutes:** Minutes from the August 5, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Amy made a motion to approve the minutes. Chad seconded, motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer report for April through July was approved and accepted.

Bank Balance (7/30/24): \$9,844.94

Revenues: **\$292.26**

Dues = \$300 (minus paypal fees of \$7.74)

Expenses: **\$930.80**

Catchy Creations = \$270 (reimbursement for flyers 7/27/24)

KPC Media = \$160.80 (advertisement)

Donations= \$500 (Chain O' Lakes festival)

Bank Balance (9/10/24): \$9,206.40

### **Old Business:**

**Bylaws:** Pattie has updated the bylaws and the board by consensus approved sending them out to the membership for review before adopting the updates at the October meeting. Chamber members will have until the end of September to comment on the Bylaws before they are adopted.

**Fall Festival:** The Chamber hopes to help our restaurants during the fall festival by manning sidewalk tables outside the 6 restaurants on the square (El Mariachi, Ale House, 110, Pizza Depot, Cowabungs, and Fox Den). Samples or treats for sale that are "off menu" will be provided and coordinated with the respective restaurants and the members manning the tables. This event is on September 14th and help is needed. This is a STAR Team coordinated event that includes a cruise in and a cornhole tournament.

**We Care Clinic:** No updates at this time. Kim is looking into this and reviewing Mariah's notes.

**Membership Update:** Jordan will be meeting with Lori Gagen soon to work with her on website and other background stuff to better recruit and manage members. She will be posting a quarterly newsletter.

**Christmas in the Village:** Central Noble will still be managing the parade and events with the help of the STAR team and the Chamber. Mariah Keirn is still going to help this year with the parade piece. Kim emphasized that the school very much wants to remain involved in the community with events like this. Pattie also brought up the idea of Christmas trees in the storefronts with possible voting on "best trees" by the public to get traffic into the stores. She will discuss this with business owners.

### **New Business:**

**Kim introduced:** Kim, who has replaced Mariah on the board, introduced herself. She is currently the Central Noble Corporation treasurer but will be replacing Tyler Osenbaugh upon his retirement. The rest of the board introduced themselves to Kim.

**Flag Program:** Chad is taking over this program from Sandy and he will be meeting with the Legion later this month to discuss the future of this program and if any changes might be suggested.

**Annual Meeting:** Amy talked about the potential to change the venue and possibly the time of year for the annual meeting since weather can be a factor in February. After some discussion, it was decided to send out a survey to membership to get their thoughts on this. The new 5C event center is being considered for a location,

**Welcome bags:** Melissa has some great ideas for welcoming new citizens and businesses to the community and a discussion about resurrecting the Chamber welcome bags was brought up with ideas on how to reach people. Using the library, the town hall, and the school were all great suggestions.

**Marketing for small business:** Amy said that Gran Roberts, who has education and experience in marketing for small business might be interested in offering a workshop to local businesses in the county. Some thoughts were that we could reach out to other chambers and potentially hold an all day workshop at a central location like 5C.

**Communications:** None discussed

**Announcements/Functions/Dates/Events:**

**Next Board Meeting-** Monday, October 7th at Noon at the Fox Den

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Submitted: Sandy Petrie