

# Albion Chamber of Commerce-Board Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2024

*Members Present: Chris Magnuson (P), Sandy Petrie (S),*

*Sharon Leitch (T), Mariah Keirn, Carla Fiandt (VP), Steve Hook, Pattie Gatman, Jordan Hartleroad*

*Absent: Kay Craig (resigned)*

**Meeting was called to order** at the CN board room by Chris at 12:00 pm.

**Minutes/Treasurer Report:** Minutes from the December 11, 2023 meeting were reviewed along with the treasurer report. Mariah made a motion to approve the minutes and accept the treasurer's report. Steve seconded, motion approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Beginning Balance (12/11/23): **\$9,387.94**

Revenue: **\$0**

Expenses: **\$907.08**

**Christmas in the Village = \$823.40**

*\$25 each for MC-S.Cole, Mr & Mrs Claus-J.Sprague & J. Steffey, CN Music;*

*\$723.40 for CN School for Santa workshop, etc.)*

**Chris Magnuson = \$83.68** *reimburse for postage, envelopes, paper related to membership dues mailings*

Bank Balance (12/31/23): **\$8,480.86**

**Old Business:**

**Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting is set for February 22nd at the Blessed Sacrament Church (brick part). Chris went over the agenda and checklist of who is doing what that evening. Sandy and Steve who are serving their second year of a two year term will be counting the ballots since they are not on the ballot this year.

**Chamber Dues/Annual Meeting Invites:** the mailings for this have gone out and several have already renewed online. Chris mentioned that six organizations have joined the new (four town) county membership.

**Small Business Sub Committee:** Members of this committee are Pattie, Melissa Wellman, Lori Gagen, and Amy Leedy. As mentioned at the last meeting, they would like a budget of \$1850 for 2024 to continue to build on the success of small business Saturday. They are looking at four events in 2024 to include a potential sidewalk sale that may coincide with the Chain O Lakes Festival, a networking event, small business Saturday event, and a Christmas event to coincide with Christmas in the Village activities. Lori is working on creating a survey to get input and ideas and asked the board for their thoughts as well. This survey would go to both Chamber and non-chamber members and give us input on not just small business thoughts but thoughts on how the Chamber can better support our community and business.

**2024 Budget:** We started going through the budget to identify areas that could be reduced and increasing the small business budget to \$1850 from \$650 for the additional activities planned. Several topics came up that included the flag program, donation requests, etc. and it became evident that this would be a larger discussion than we could have within a regular meeting. Sandy suggested that we simplify the budget with the larger categories for the moment and then have a retreat with the board following the annual meeting. This would allow the new board to dedicate time to reviewing bylaws, looking at the mission, setting goals, and ensuring that everyone is on the same page moving forward.

**New Business:**

Many of the topics for discussion were brought up while discussing the 2024 budget and the suggestion of the retreat was felt to be a good idea for moving forward.

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

**Annual Meeting** - February 22,2024 at Blessed Sacrament Church in Albion. Registration starts at 5:30pm with the event beginning promptly at 6pm.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

***Next Meeting:*** The next meeting will be annual meeting.

Submitted: Sandy Petrie