



Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, January 22, 2020 – 7:30 a.m.

Chamber Board Room

MINUTES

Present: Mike Funk, Kim Nelson, Mike Chandler, Angie Eggum, Kevin Miland, Bobbie Jacobs, Heather Lee, Jeff Woodside, Torrey Zimmerman and Elaine Wallace

Ex-Officios Present: Phillip Johnson, Tom Jensen, Andy Henschel

Absent: George Gonzalez, Beau Hartman, Angie Kolker, Tricia Dahl

Welcome:

- Kim Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

REPORTS

City of Albert Lea (David Todd): Not Present

Freeborn County (Tom Jensen):

- Looking for a building to house the re-cycling center.
- Health & Human Services are looking for a larger building.
- Refugee resettlement program. Freeborn County presently has 3 resettled refugees receiving aid.

SRRWD (Andy Henschel):

- Working on Grants for projects, with this Legislative Season starting.
- Working on Bonding requirements for Phase 3 – Fountain Lake.
- Pump Station being installed on upper Twin Lakes and a fish barrier being installed on lower Twin Lakes.
- Their Annual Meeting will be held in April.

ALEDA (Phillip Johnson):

- Strategic Planning results are completed. A Community Event will be held in late February to explain the results.
- 38 Day Care Providers (in home) attended the Appreciation Event held on January 21.
- United Way will be moving into the former ALEDA building.
- Riverland housing development is scheduled to begin in July. The units will be located on the property behind Northbridge Mall.
- A developer is looking at property in Blazing Star (south portion) for apartments.
- The former Bridon Cordage building will now house Infinite Recycled Technologies.

Albert Lea Schools (Mike Funk):

- Community Ed will be moving to the new Field House, on the second level, at the end of February.
- There is a delay in opening the Day Care facilities for their employees.

Welcomed New Board Member Jeff Woodside

CONSENT ITEMS:

- The December 2019 Chamber Meeting Minutes were presented. Kim Nelson made a motion, seconded by Kevin Miland to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
- The December 2019 Chamber Financial Reports were presented. Bobbie Jacobs made a motion, seconded by Angie Eggum to approve the financials. Motion carried.

CHAMBER COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- Business Education Collaborative (1/7/20)
- Worksite Wellness (1/17/20)
- Chamber Ambassadors (1/15/20)

OLD BUSINESS:

- Legislative Session: Is being held on February 11. Have a full table of 10 attending.
- Book Club: Kim Nelson reported the first meeting at The Outlet was attended by 12 individuals.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discuss Governmental Affairs Committee: Tabled.
- Business After House Exploratory Committee: The Ad Hoc Group volunteers reported on their explored ideas for our Business After Hours. Mentioning a few events the Austin Chamber holds.
- Board Retreat and Appreciation Reception: Board Retreat is scheduled for February 5 (1 – 5 pm) at Three Oaks Winery. The Appreciation Reception will be held following the Retreat (5:30 – 7:30 pm).
- Main Street: Leadership for the Program will be turned over to the CVB, but the Chamber will remain involved. The City is requesting the remaining funds returned to them.
- July 3rd Parade: Working with the City on an alternate parade route because of the proposed construction on Bridge Avenue.
- Fundraising for July 4 Fireworks: Working on additional ways/options to raise more funds.

Adjourn: Motion made by Kim Nelson and seconded by Bobbie Jacobs to adjourn the meeting.

The next Meeting will be Wednesday, February 26, 7:30 a.m. in the Chamber Office Board Room.