



Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 25, 2020 – 7:30 a.m.
Zoom Meeting

Present: Beau Hartman, Allen Hendriks, Bobbie Jacobs, Rita Moyer, Mike Funk, George Gonzalez, Angie Eggum, Heather Lee, Ryan Langemeier, Jeff Woodside, Mike Chandler, Kevin Miland, Shari Jensen and Elaine Wallace

Welcome:

- Mike Chandler called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. Mike welcomed to Albert Lea the new City Manager, Ian Rigg.

Reports:

City of Albert Lea (Ian Rigg, City Manager):

- Working with the Cold Storage Facility looking to locate in Albert Lea.
- Small business loan for the rebuild of the Elks Club.
- Putting a Small Business Grant together with ALEDA and the County.

Freeborn County (Tom Jensen): Not Present

CVB (Holly Karsjens):

- Shop Small Bingo is Nov. 28 thru Dec. 10.
- Riverland welding department is working on the laser cutouts for the downtown large flowerpots.
- Working on a 'Restaurant Directory' which will be posted on ExploreAL.com.

ALEDA (Phillip Johnson):

- Working with two developers: a) townhomes and b) downtown area.
- Mercy One is moving forward. Opening date is July 1st.
- The new VA Clinic is near completion.
- Working with the City and County on another Grant Program (\$500,000 goal) that should be ready to go out the first weeks of the new year.

Committee Updates:

Ambassadors – Bobbie Jacobs reported
Business & Education Collaborative – Shari reported
Governmental Affairs – Shari reported
Worksite Wellness – Shari reported
Proposed New Committee – Shari reported

Consent Items:

- October 2020 Chamber Meeting Minutes were presented. George Gonzalez made a motion, seconded by Jeff Woodside to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
- October 2020 Chamber Financial Reports were not available at the time of the meeting.

Chamber Funding Updates:

- Fundraisers – Shari mentioned the 3 possible golf fundraising events.
- Matching donation from REG. Motion was made by Mike Funk, seconded by Angie Eggum to postpone the Board Members reaching out/letter until spring.

Chamber Member Benefit Updates:

- Now offer QR Coding
- First Aid/CPR/AED – will be applying for grant funding from Mayo.
- Mental Health First Aid for Adults – classes now available
- Annual Meeting – George Gonzalez made a motion, seconded by Rita Moyer on the nomination award of the Large Business of the Year. Motion carried.

Community Updates and Partnerships:

- Winter Gear Drive now through Jan./Feb. Partnering with United Way
- Blood Drive was Oct. 30, noon – 6 pm at the Northbridge Mall. Huge success. Next Blood Drive is scheduled for December 31. 2021 Blood Drives are all scheduled for every other month.

Adjourn: Motion by Bobbie Jacobs and seconded by Heather Lee to adjourn the meeting.

The next Meeting will be Wednesday, December 23, 7:30 a.m. via Zoom.