



*Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber of Commerce*

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday, June 24, 2020 – 7:30 a.m.

Zoom Meeting

**MINUTES**

Present: George Gonzalez, Beau Hartman, Angie Kolker, Kim Nelson, Bobbie Jacobs, Heather Lee, Tricia Dahl, Mike Funk, Mike Chandler, Shari Jenson and Elaine Wallace

Ex-Officios Present: Holly Karsjens, Jerry Gabrielatos, Tom Jensen, Sue Loch

Absent: Kevin Miland, Angie Eggum, Jeff Woodside

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**Welcome:**

- George Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

**REPORTS**

**City of Albert Lea (Jerry Gabrielatos):**

- Multi-Family Housing Project is coming to the Blazing Star area.
- City Manager's job position has been posted.
- Library is open. Not sure when City Hall will open.
- City unemployment rate is 7.8%, Minnesota is 9% and National is 13%

**Freeborn County (Tom Jensen):**

- Court House currently has one entrance.
- The first jury trial will be held this week.
- The Clarks Grove Golf Club plans on holding fireworks on the 4<sup>th</sup>. County is not in favor of the event. County requires/is waiting for a letter from their Insurance Company.

**CVB (Holly Karsjens):**

- Holly is working with Explore Minnesota on our local tourism.
- Working on adding fun events to the Farmers Market. Last week she had live music.
- Moving into the building with the Chamber and ALEDA by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**ALEDA (Phillip Johnson):** Not Present

**Riverland Community College (Kim Nelson):**

- No increase in tuition for Fall 2020 session. There will be an increase in the Spring 2021 tuition.
- Fall enrollment registration has seen an increase, but still down 12% from this time last year.

**Chamber Foundation (Sue Loch):**

- Committee has updated their purpose, mission, procedures and the fee structure.
- A letter will be sent to the County, City and businesses to let them know the why/what the Foundation does and/or can do for them.

**CONSENT ITEMS:**

- The May 2020 Chamber Meeting Minutes were presented. Kim Nelson made a motion, seconded by Tricia Dahl to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
- The May 2020 Chamber Financial Reports were presented. Mike Chandler made a motion, seconded by Kim Nelson to approve the financials. Motion carried. Shari will check on the Heartland Credit Card contract/fees.

**CHAMBER COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:**

- Chamber Foundation (6/12/20)

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- July 3 & 4 Activities (parade and fireworks): Clarks Golf Club wants to provide fireworks for July 4<sup>th</sup>. This event has nothing to do with the Chamber. Private individuals are on Facebook regarding holding a parade. This also has nothing to do with the Chamber.
- Albert Lea Leadership: Board Members should begin to recruit individuals for the Fall 2020-2021 session.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Executive Director Update: Introduced Shari Jenson as our new Director.
- Business After Hours Exploratory Committee: Bobbie and Heather are going through ideas on how it would work virtually.
- Discussed the Signature Resolution to remove Kim Nelson and Tricia Dahl from the checking account and add George Gonzalez, Mike Chandler and Shari Jenson to the checking account at Security Bank Minnesota, and add Shari Jenson and Elaine Wallace to the Gift Certificate Checking account at Home Federal Savings Bank. Motion carried.
- The Board should begin looking for replacements for Kim Nelson and Tricia Dahl whose terms will expire October 2020.
- Begin thinking on how to hold/present our Annual Meeting in November.

**Adjourn:** Motion made by Tricia Dahl and seconded by Bobbie Jacobs to adjourn the meeting.

The next Meeting will be Wednesday, July 22, 7:30 a.m. via Zoom.