



Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 26, 2021 – 7:30 a.m. Zoom Meeting

Present: Beau Hartman, Allen Hendriks, Bobbie Jacobs, Angie Eggum, Ryan Langemeier, Mike Chandler, Mike Funk, Jeff Woodside, Kevin Miland, Shari Jenson and Elaine Wallace

Absent:, George Gonzalez, Rita Moyer, Heather Lee

Welcome:

- Mike Chandler called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

Reports:

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

- Vortex Storage site will begin construction.
- Former Marketplace building - construction to begin soon.
- Housing study is complete – more affordable housing is much needed.
- The cleanup on Front Street for the proposed apartment building site has begun.
- DOT is hosting a Public Open House at Riverland Community College on June 3 at 5 p.m. for information on the 2022 Hwy 65 construction project.

Freeborn County (Tom Jensen):

- The railroad derailment spill was contained, and it took Union Pacific 1–5 days to cleanup/re-build. No habitat was affected.
- About 50% of Freeborn County population is vaccinated to-date.
- Continued Bridge Avenue construction.
- Freeborn County Fair Board opened the fairgrounds on June 1 for special events, and July 1 it will be fully opened.

Committee Updates:

Chamber and Committee Updates were included in the packets emailed to all Board Members, for their information.

Consent Items:

- April Chamber Meeting Minutes were presented. No questions or comments. Mike Funk made a motion to approve the April Minutes. Seconded by Angie Eggum. Motion carried.
- April Chamber Financial Reports were presented. No questions or comments. Bobbie Jacobs made a motion to approve the April financials. Seconded by Beau Hartman. Motion carried.

Financial Items: The monthly financial reports will look different moving forward (new bookkeeper).

Currently working:

- Parade – approved to hold.
- Fireworks – approved and have a contract with the new vendor. Fundraiser is Friday, June 4.
- Golf Outing – July 19
- Business After Hours – Mercy One will host in July.

Brainstorm Session:

- Advocacy – Housing is an ongoing problem – Executive Director should talk to our members on their concerns/needs and be the voice for them.

Adjourn: Mike Chandler adjourned the meeting.