

**Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce  
Foundation Board of Directors Minutes – June 4, 2020**

**PREESENT:** Deb Finn, Michelle Kidd, Mike Splitt, Vicki Summers, Mike Winnecke, Jordan Debbink, Nick Kubiak, Bob Blazier, and Bill Eich

**ABSENT:** Helen Lindquist, Linda Barrett, Kathleen Caldwell, and Kara Monte

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vicki Summers called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF MAY MINUTES:** Bob Blazier made a motion to accept the May minutes. Mike Winnecke seconded the motion. All approved.

**FINANCE:** Nick Kubiak presented the financial reports. Vicki Summers inquired about the \$500 deposit to Boulder Ridge Country Club to reserve a date for the 2021 GEM Luncheon – Nick Kubiak responded, saying it was included. Jordan Debbink and Deb Finn said that they could not find the \$500 deposit listed on the reports. It was lumped in with GEM Luncheon Meals – this has since been adjusted to show up as an individual line item. Deb Finn made a motion to approve the finances, which was seconded by Bob Blazier. All approved.

**BLUE STAR BANNER PROGRAM UPDATE:**

*[Prior to Nancy Gonsiorek joining the meeting]*

Vicki Summers presented the idea of bringing on the Blue Star Banner Program (BSBP) as part of the Foundation. Discussion commenced – Jordan Debbink spoke of the importance of keeping fundraising efforts separate if the Foundation took on the Blue Star Banner Program. Debbink also touched on the importance of making sure Donna McAnally (Founder of the BSBP) understands that a committee would be involved in the decision-making process. Mike Winnecke added that taking on the BSBP could be a nice gesture, so long as there wasn't a surplus amount of stress added to the Foundation as a result. Vicki Summers stated that she would be meeting personally with Donna to further discuss this matter – depending on the outcome of this, the Board agreed to meet in July to vote on the subject.

*[After Nancy Gonsiorek joined the meeting]*

Nancy Gonsiorek explained that taking on the BSBP would include keeping records of it in a non-discriminatory fashion. Nancy brought to the forefront situations that would be problematic for the Foundation – this included flags being created for servicemen that turned out not to be veterans (providing a checklist would help with this, according to Nancy). She reiterated that the funds for the program would be going through the Foundation and that all activity would be need oversight from the Foundation. She added that we would need a class set up in QuickBooks to monitor the BSBP's finances. Vicki Summers then reiterated that she would be having a meeting with Donna McAnally to discuss what the needs of the BSBP are and how they fit with the Foundation's mission. There was also discussion about a one-year trial period, which would also include the Foundation taking a small percentage of donations as a processing fee. Mike Splitt, Jordan

Debbink, and Vicki Summers all expressed concern over Donna's potential negative feelings towards having less control while under the Foundation. Bill Eich spoke about the potential of the BSBP becoming its own 501(c)(3), should the Foundation pass on taking it on; Bill noted that while Donna may not be able to become a 501(c)(3) using her own funds, others might be willing to cover the cost of setting a 501(c)(3) up in perpetuity.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**: Michelle Kidd announced that she sent scholarship information out to MCC, who then forwarded it on to their Engineering and Architectural programs, which have ties to four-year universities. Information was also sent out to D155 students who filled out the Senior Exit Survey. Jordan added that going forward, having a portal that students could submit applications through would be beneficial to all parties involved. Everyone thanked Michelle for reaching out to the schools and garnering more scholarship opportunities. A motion was made by Mike Splitt to approve the scholarship candidates, which was seconded by Bob Blazier. All approved.

Later scholarship discussions were had in regards to sending out letters to scholarship recipients and communicating a time for them to come to the Chamber for a photo opportunity. Video announcements were also talked about.

**ENDOWMENT FUND**: Nancy Gonsiorek explained what an endowment is – “It is a legal endeavor; you would have to have a lawyer come and draw up an agreement for you. But the biggest thing I would warn you about an endowment fund is that you need money – lots of it. They're expensive to maintain and basically, what you're doing with an endowment fund is, you're putting money away in perpetuity ... It's great if you have a million dollars that you don't need.” She added that small organizations don't need an endowment fund and that the Foundation does not need to have an endowment fund. She also added that a Board-designated fund would likely be more advantageous if the Foundation wanted to put away funds for scholarships.

**ADJOURN**: The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mike Splitt, seconded by Mike Winnecke.