

Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce
Board Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2020
5:30 - 7:00 pm

Attendees:

George Medellin – President
Christy Duncan – Vice President
Mark Opperman – Treasurer
Diane Gerson
Karla Hogan
Shelly Larson
Paula Newman
Marlene Peterson
Christina Poteet – absent
Cassie Richey
Diana Kelly – Office Manager

Call to Order

George called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

Review of Previous Minutes

VOTE: Motion to approve the July 16, 2020 minutes as presented was made by Christy. Cassie seconded the motion. The motion carried without objections or abstentions.

Financial Report

The Board reviewed the financials as of July 31, 2020 from Koopman Accounting. It was noted the Cut-The-Gut and City-Wide Garage Sale expenses will be reflected in the August financials. Karla noted once the Cut-The-Gut net funds are determined, half of the funds will be given to the Sweet Home High School SAFE Committee. Karla said she would work with Melody, Marketing Manager, for publicity.

Mark updated the Board on account balances from Umpqua Bank:

Checking \$12,264.91

Savings \$23,805.62 including \$17,500 EIDL funds

Nonprofit Update

Mark shared he has begun the process of filling out the twenty-two page application and noted he hopes to have it completed by our next meeting. He believes the IRS will reinstate the Chamber to their nonprofit status retroactively since the Chamber lost their status due to the embezzlement and destruction of tax notifications and other documents.

City of Sweet Home Contract

George stated his meeting with Sweet Home City Manager Ray Towry went very well and noted the City does not have any complaints with the Chamber's performance. A new contract for 2020-2021 has been submitted to the City and George believes we should have a signed contract soon.

Virtual Awards Ceremony

George shared the virtual ceremony was well received with a peak attendance of forty people during the live event, a Facebook reach of close to 2,200 and nearly 500 people have commented or liked the event as of this afternoon.

Other Business

Karla noted she is still waiting on quotes for the proposed update for the lighted sign on the east side of the Chamber building; therefore, she did not have a report to present. George asked the Board if they thought there was a conflict of interest with the Chamber sharing the office with another business. After some discussion, it was noted in the past there have been other businesses sharing the Chamber office, as well as throughout the state, so the Board agreed there was not a conflict of interest.

George also asked about the potential move to the new City of Sweet Home building. The Board noted that in his absence the discussion was tabled due to COVID-19 and financial restraints. Karla shared she believed the Chamber office needed to remain where it is in the hub of Sweet Home and if the Board discusses it in the future, the members of the Chamber should be allowed to vote on the possibility before the Board pursues the option.

Cassie asked about the upcoming events the Chamber has plans for and noted she would like to help. A booth at the October 3 City Harvest Festival was discussed and it was noted the National Night Out might be celebrated at the same time. Cassie said she would take the lead on that and report to Karla, Chamber Event Chair. Karla said she believed the Haunted House will be cancelled due to COVID. It was noted the City has taken over the Christmas Cards and Diane shared those who wish to place one at their business or home can come to the City office to check one out. Karla said she would work with the City about a possible Christmas parade in December.

Karla gave an update on the current vandalism around the Chamber and her realty business. Her office has been calling the police on the loiterers and plan to cut down the deteriorating benches by the Chamber sign. They have also received permission from the dentist, Dr. Wolthuis, to cut the trees that are hanging over the fence by Speedee Mart where transients tend to sleep.

Adjournment

George thanked the Board for their time and adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Opperman
Board Secretary

Christy Duncan
Recorder