

Neligh Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting

June 8, 2021. Noon - Chamber Office

Present: Jill, Steve, Rich, Diane, Wade, Lianne

Absent: Jennifer, Traci, Klint

Other Guests: Lauren, Bri

Meeting called to order at 12:08 PM

Approval of May Bills: Motion: Rich, 2nd: Steve

Approval of May Minutes: Motion: Rich, 2nd: Wade

New Business:

1. Jennifer Norton will be resigning from the Library as the Library Director to accept a new position. Her last day is July 15. With this, she has also submitted her resignation from the Chamber Board. Steve made the motion to accept the resignation of Jennifer Norton from the Chamber as a Board Member with regrets. **Motion: Steve, 2nd: Rich** The Board will begin looking for a new Member to fill the empty Chair Position.

Old Business

1. Chamber Big Bucks: Wade had reached out to many different printers to try to create a collaboration with them on creating our Chamber Bucks since the previous vendor went out of business. He was able to find one business that had a reasonable price and would be able to make the bucks bigger and have micker Ink so that they can be turned in at any bank. Bri also had one business that had reached out to her that created Chamber Bucks for a variety of communities. After discussion, it was decided that Wade will create a design to make them more customizable to the chamber, and that will be sent to the vendor to see if it is possible. A motion was made to have ACN design the new Chamber Big Bucks and have it for approval at the next meeting. **Motion: Diane, 2nd: Lianne**

New Business:

2. Chamber Director Report: Bri reported that Claire Whitesel was awarded the Chamber Scholarship and came and received it last month. She also was made a Facebook admin per the decision last meeting, but it seems that there is an issue with our Instagram account that is making it so they can't be connected. She will be looking more into this.

The Norfolk Chamber is doing a marketing class for the month of June. Bri will send out this information to pass along to the rest of the Chamber. For Novemberfest, we have 3 vendors so far that have committed to coming. Bri also had made a spreadsheet that has every winery, brewery, and distillery in the state of Nebraska's information on it.

The Neligh Donation Garden is looking for volunteers to help weed, even if only for a day, as their master gardener broke her ankle. Anyone who is willing to help would be greatly appreciated! It was also brought to Lauren and Bri's attention that it may be time to update the Christmas Display. Bri will be looking into more into this. Lastly, the chamber director's hours by the end of May were sitting at 422/ 1000 of the total contracted hours. **Motion: Steve, 2nd: Rich**

3. **ED Report:** Lauren announced that the History NE Grant Neligh had applied for was awarded to us! This is a \$21K grant to help create a walking history tour app for the City. Request for Proposals will be sent out Thursday. Rainbow fountain has 200 new plants thanks to the design and hard work of Amanda Elder and the assistance of the FFA. The Old Mill District banners for Hwy 275 and Willie Drive have arrived and will hopefully be up before Old Mill Days! Some exciting news was that the Micro Enterprise tax Credits doubled to 20K available for a business's lifetime total!

In Clearwater, Automated Dairy had an open house on June 10th. The Rodeo is coming up on June 25-27. They also just completed a beautification project with new planters and sprucing up downtown greenery a bit. Neligh will be hosting the NE Networking meeting on July 20. Lauren also informed the board that she will be gone on vacation from July 2-8. Lastly, the Chamber contract will be increased by the annual 5%, making the payments (2 of them) be \$7,354.20. A motion was made to approve the 5% annual increase. **Motion: Steve, 2nd: Lianne**

Committee Reports:

1. **Membership:** We have a new member! Sandhill's Salt, LLC joined the chamber last month!
2. **Promotions:** Our next promotion is the Teacher's Breakfast in August.
3. **Business After Hours:** Stealth Broadband will be hosting the next business after hours! It will be on July 22 at Sly's from 5-7 pm. Bri also looked into having the Mill be an event space to host future business after hours. However, in order for someone to go there, the University requires that a caterer (such as the Legion) be in charge of alcohol. This may be explored more in the future.
4. **BBQ:** Jill and Klint will be getting together to discuss details on the BBQ.

Adjourn: 12:49 PM. Motion: Liane, 2nd: Wade

Minutes read and approved by: Jill Kallhoff, President. Date: 06/17/21