

Neligh Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting

August 10, 2021. Noon - Chamber Office

Present: Jill, Steve, Klint, Diane (Called in), Rich (Called in)

Absent: Lianne, Stephanie, Traci, Wade

Other Guests: Lauren, Bri

Meeting called to order at 12:06 PM

Approval of July Bills: **Motion: Diane, 2nd: Klint**

Approval of July Minutes: **Motion: Steve, 2nd: Klint**

New Business:

1. Christmas Lights Display Discussion: Bri reviewed that we had a donor purchase new lights for our Christmas Display and donate the money for these items. We will need to begin fundraising to continue to update the display. The Board was asked to think of display pieces they would like to see added to the courthouse display as well as brainstorm ideas for fundraising. This will be a more ongoing project.
2. Chamber Director Report: Bri talked about how she is working on trying to help get the Invenergy membership set up. It is a slower process working with corporate. The welcome bags arrived and were delivered to City Hall just in time since they only had 1 left! She also noted that Congressman Adrian Smith will be coming to Neligh on August 18. He will be at the Library from 11:30 am- 12:30 pm. This is a Chamber Hosted event, but it is open to the public so he can hear the voice of the community. The Chamber Big Bucks are still in the works, and hopefully, they will be ordered soon. A quick update on Novemberfest, no additional breweries or wineries have been added yet. We will probably begin the planning process here soon! Lastly, Lauren had the great idea for a Ladies night in the fall where restaurants could maybe have a drink special, and the boutiques and retail stores could maybe stay open later. This will be a new project to begin working on. Current contracted hours are 631/1000. Motion to approve the Chamber Directors Report. **Motion: Steve, 2nd: Klint**
3. ED Report: Lauren updated the chamber board on the ED Progress. Currently, they are looking and deciding 12-15 attractions for app development to showcase. They also submitted a notice to divide on the Hilds tiff project for the newest homeowners, and there are a few businesses who applied for grants that will need to be approved at the upcoming city council meeting. There will also be a new grant program available to businesses. This is the Exterior Façade Grant and it is open to any businesses in City

Limits that have not previously received it. This is a \$1000 match grant and can be used for store front renovations and signage. Neligh also has two new business fronts in town including Stealth Broadband and Creekwood Chiropractic! Work on Rainbow Fountain continues with the estimates from Nate Hughs on some watering systems for the plants. We are just waiting to hear back on that. Lastly, starting next week, the Economic Development office will be getting a little update as we will be painting and getting new flooring. This should be completed by the end of the month.

Committee Reports:

1. Promotions: Next Promotion is the Teacher's Breakfast which was moved to Thursday, August 19. There was a total of 12 businesses that donated an item or coupon for the teachers' goodie bags. After this event, our next one will be Novemberfest!
2. Business After Hours: August 12, Business After Hours will be hosted by Summerland Advocate Messenger and Sly's! Looking for a business to host in September.
3. BBQ: Update – The Board reviewed the P & L (summary) statement and discussed changes for next year such as adding yard signs to put around the fair. It was also brought up to purchase some much needed new equipment for next year. The Roasters were not working well since the dials were broken. The one that was used for this Chamber Meeting over heated and even had sparks. New Roasters and items for BBQ was decided were needed. Motion to approve the spending of no more than \$200 to replace older broken or damaged BBQ items (such as serving spoons, can openers, and roasters). Motion: Rich, 2nd: Steve. Over all, it was a good BBQ year!

Adjourn: **12:28 PM** **Motion: Steve, 2nd: Klint**

Minutes reviewed and approved by: Jill Kallhoff, President Date: 08/20/21