

Neligh Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting

May 11, 2021. Noon - Chamber Office

Present: Jill, Steve, Klint, Jennifer, Diane, Lianne

Absent: Wade, Traci, Rich

Other Guests: Lauren, Bri

Meeting called to order at 12:07 PM

Approval of April Bills: **Motion: Steve, 2nd: Lianne**

Approval of April Minutes: **Motion: Jennifer, 2nd: Klint**

Old Business

1. **Chamber Big Bucks:** Wade has reached out to other vendors to see if they could possibly help with what we are looking for. He is currently waiting to hear back from a couple of them. The Chamber also discussed the idea of possibly switching these back to checks that are addressed to Neligh Area Chamber Businesses. Bri is going to look into this more and see what other options may be available. This was tabled for the next meeting.

New Business:

2. **Chamber Scholarship:** Claire Whitesel was the recipient of the first Chamber Scholarship! The Chamber decided to directly address the check to her so that she can use it for housing, books, school, or whatever her education needs may be. Motion to have a \$200 check be made out to Claire Whitesel from the Scholarship Fund. **Motion: Steve, 2nd: Diane**
3. **Chamber Director Report:** Shred day went well on April 20. There was a slight delay, that caused the time to change from 11-1 to be from 1-3. There ended up being 13 “loads” of paper needing to be shredded. The Chamber also had a ribbon cutting for RK Creations in Royal. A few businesses had come to support the newest Chamber Member! An upcoming event for the Chamber to recognize is that Thriftway’s Burger Bash will be on May 28th.

Bri attended a YP Summit in Norfolk on Thursday where she was able to meet new individuals and connect with them as well as attend many great presentations! She also had completed the Heartland Economic Development course in April where every Wednesday and Thursday from 8 AM -12:30 PM where she was able to really learn more on the basics of economic development.

Currently, Bri is sitting at 388/1000 of the contracted Chamber Hours. She has tried to step back a little bit on the Chamber side to even out the hours with ED and to make sure there will be enough for the full year. So far, it is working, and the numbers are evening out. Last, Bri will be gone from May 21-25 for a vacation. If you need assistance, businesses and individuals should contact Lauren.

ED Report: For the City Council Meeting tonight, there will be one digital façade grant and one electrical incentive being presented to the council. The ED Office was able to complete a History NE Certified Local Government Grant that if we receive will award us \$20,000 to create an app that will have all of the museum markers and a walking tour of Neligh available on it. The Neligh Entrepreneur Video contest has been extended to June 30. If you know of any aspiring business owners or business owners looking to expand, get the word out to them about this contest! We would love to let them know we have a great starting prize package available.

Rainbow Fountain has had new mulch put down and the planting will begin on Friday with the help of the NOPS FFA! A big thank you to Amanda Elder for designing the new layout of the fountain. Also, a special recognition for the ESU 8! They will be receiving a Nebraska Mainstreet Façade Improvement award on May 24th at 2 PM! We are thrilled for them to be recognized for all of their hard work. Lastly, the Neligh banners are being worked on to replace, hopefully by the 4th of July!

Committee Reports:

1. **Promotions:** The Mother's Day promotions went well. Rich, Jill, and Bri went around and delivered the flower and cookie to nominated mothers on May 4th. The Chamber Mother of the year was also announced. The Kids category winner was Megan Jacob, and the Big Kids winner was Dodi Jessen. The next promotions will be the Chamber BBQ on August 7th and the Teacher's Breakfast.
2. **Business After Hours:** Stealth Broadband will be looking to do a Chamber Business After Hours in June!
3. **BBQ:** Jill and Klint will get together and start getting items ready for the BBQ.
4. **Novemberfest:** Steve and Bri will get together and start getting things together for this event.

Adjourn: 12:46 PM. Motion: Lianne, 2nd: Steve

Minutes Reviewed and Approved by: Jill Kallhoff, President Date: 05/12/21