

## **NELIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES 10/08/2024**

Present: Jill Kallhoff, Klint Arnold, Rich Burgess, Diane Brugger, Steve Simonsen

Absent: Laurie Larsen, Kelli Garcia, FBLA

Guest: Tammy Struebing, Lauren Sheridan-Simonsen

President Jill called the meeting to order at 12:06.

Diane motioned to approve the September minutes, seconded by Steve. All in favor. Motion approved.

Rich motioned to approve the September bills and treasurer's report, seconded by Steve. All in favor. Motion approved.

Diane motioned to accept Sara Borer's resignation, seconded by Klint. All in favor. Motion approved.

The board discussed the ED-Chamber contract and the October meeting with the ED HR committee. Both organizations are to review the 2022 job description for updates. Chamber yearly hours will be reviewed to estimate the hours needed for the position to improve time management and scheduling for efficiency.

The board discussed Trunk or Treat on October 26 and the need for donations for the FBLA to host the event at Riverside Park.

Steve motioned to transfer funds from the Market Rate Housing account to the ICS account to maintain the minimum balance and accrue interest on the account. Klint seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

The board discussed Ladies Night and moving from November 6 to November 14 with state high school volleyball scheduling conflicts.

Lauren provided a combined Chamber-ED report to the board stating Shred Day will occur on October 16, south of City Hall, and Dan Osborn would be in Neligh at Sly's Family Bar and Grill on October 14. She also stated that the 6 Regions One Nebraska meeting focused on housing and leadership. Lauren noted that the newly formed Cowboy Trail Coalition met in September and is partnering with multiple groups, including the NE Game and Parks, which are all planning the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the trail in 2025. New welcome signage proofs were shared with the board. Lauren updated the board on the housing revolving loan fund balance, \$781,072.41, and the Annual Review in progress

with AMGL. She also stated the Memory Tree will be returning at the east entrance of Riverside Park. Lauren welcomed two new businesses to town. NE-Leigh Farm and Next Step Counseling. Ladies Night will be on November 14, Tickets for Novemberfest will be available soon, and Trunk or Treat will be on October 26. Candy or kid-friendly snacks, items (crayons, coloring books, etc.), and cash to purchase items for the estimated 150-200 kids. Lauren also invited everyone to the Veterans Park fundraising event in Clearwater on October 12.

Diane reported on new membership conversations with Hilltop Community Pharmacy, Senior Life Solutions, and Overland Rehab—memberships with NE-Leigh Farm and Next Step Counseling, two new Neligh businesses. Diane also mentioned that a potential member of Hilltop Community Pharmacy may join the board.

Klint and Steve are working on Novemberfest plans. Advertising will begin soon. They will communicate with vendors and get volunteers. Tickets will be available this week.

The Parade of Lights will be on Sunday, December 1st, at 5:30 p.m. Stealth Broadband will provide the hot dogs. Additional donations for buns and cookies will be requested. Diane will organize the parade lineup. Options for a larger broadcast coverage area will be researched. Santa emailed from the North Pole, saying he needs a new hat and gloves for his visit to Neligh. We will look at options for Santa's request. It is a short holiday season, and the board will turn the lights on Thanksgiving night to show off the new display items! We estimate the lighting display will be set up with the FBLA on November 3 or 10. The Great Elf Hunt will return with the promotion start date of November 29. Twelve elves will visit Neligh Chamber businesses. A \$25 receipt at a participating business with a photo of the business Elf can be submitted through Facebook, emailed, or by visiting the Chamber office.

Steve made a motion to adjourn at 12:52. Klint seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Lauren Sheridan-Simonsen.  
Director of Economic Development  
October 14, 2024