

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

12:00 PM



Executive Director Report

WordPress Training & New Website:

Schueller provided some follow-up information from the Wordpress Training Class that was approved at the February meeting. As part of the group training, the cost to the Chamber was just \$60.27, and included 2 webinar trainings and a collection of videos for both wordpress site development and two commonly used plug-ins. Following the first training session, Schueller began working with Kent Bombard to have access to a Wordpress Dashboard to build a new site. By the end of the training sessions, a new Chamber website was launched. The url remains the same, but the site is fully updated with a new theme, layout and tools.

New Member Report:

One new member joined in February ~ Jim Laven with American Family Insurance, Sanvik Agency

Membership Renewal Status:

At the end of 2017, the Chamber had a total membership of 215 members.

As of March 5th, we have 178 members that have joined or renewed their membership for 2018. Board members have received a list of the non-renewal follow-ups that are needed and have been asked to assist with outreach to those members with a personal call or visit.

Treasurer's Report:

Expenses incurred by the general fund included postage for visitor packet requests, website theme and plug-in purchases, the Art in the Park donation, advertising expense for Chamber Chat, and payroll. These general fund expenses total \$2,558.40. Additional expenses for dedicated funds include: \$280 for Freedom Fest banner hanging and Minnesota Sings entry fee. *A motion was made by Cummings to approve the Treasurer's Report, second by Samuelson. Motion carried.*

Business & Community Development

Lezlie Sauter, Community Development Director with the City of Pine City, shared the following highlights:

- » The Pine City EDA has approved an application for a grant that would allow for an economic development intern to be hired for a year with the City of Pine City.
- » The Pine City Planning Commission is working on a review of the city's Comprehensive Plan and will take a few chapters for review each month over the next several months.

Committee Reports

Beer & Wine Tasting Committee

- » Event raised \$1,696.51 thanks to generous partners and ticket sales.
- » KBK sponsored the event with the addition on an acoustic guitar player. This was an excellent addition to the evening.
- » Thank you to local vendors: Northern Hollow Winery, Boondoggle Winery & Three Twenty Brewing for attending, along with the large variety of distributors from the Voyageur Bottle Shop.

Freedom Fest Committee

- » Rental agreement has been completed with the Pine County Fair Board for use of the Event Center for June 30th
- » McDonald's Distributing has been confirmed for the day as well.
- » The committee is looking for an organization or individual that would coordinate the various activities for the Kids events that day. We have an interest in growing the youth opportunities to provide things for preschool through teens to have activities for the day.
- » Donation request letters were sent out, seeking pledge responses by April 1st for the Pine County Traveler ad to be completed.

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Student Director Reports

Ambassador Program:

- » Jill shared that she and Summer have been working on creating a promotional video for the new candidate recruitment efforts for 2018. Applications will be coming due on Friday, March 23rd.
- » The next event for the group will be the Community Easter Celebration on Saturday, March 24th.

Pine City Public Schools:

- » Dragon Boys Basketball played against Hinckley in the final regular season game of the year. A win over Hinckley that evening made the two teams Co-Conference Champions for the season.
- » Dragon Hockey advanced into the second round of playoffs, falling to North Branch to end their season.
- » Dragon Girls Basketball lost against Rush City in the first round of playoffs to end their season.

Pine Technical & Community College:

- » The college will host a new event this year – a Career Fair – on Thursday, March 15th from 3 – 7 PM.

Chamber Member Updates

- » Hands for Pine City will host the Community Easter Celebration on Saturday, March 24th at 11 AM.

Meeting adjourned at 12:54 PM.