



CHAMBER/MAIN STREET MINUTES

December 13, 2016

Present: Bob Sadler, Carolyn Havenstrite, Amie Johansen, Patrick Ritter, Allison Rose, Jane Blumhagen, Amy Christiansen, Gail Hackman, Kevin Baumler, Melody Patrick, Carolyn Weber, Brandy Burgin, and new City Administrator Nick McIntyre
Absent: Mike Johnson, Tanya Tysland, Jason Knox

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. by President Bob Sadler.
2. Bob asked to amend the Agenda to add item 7c. Accept Resignation from Melody Patrick. Motion was made by Jane, seconded by Melody, to approve the agenda with the change. All Aye. Carried.
3. Motion was made by Carolyn W., seconded by Carolyn H., to approve the Minutes from the November meeting. All Aye. Carried.
4. Finances – Melody advised in going through the financials, that our \$61,000 from the Bus Barn sale is in a non-interest bearing account, and recommends changing to an interest bearing account. Motion was made by Gail, seconded by Carolyn W., to put any account with more than \$1,000 balance into an Interest Bearing Account. All Aye. Carried. Brandy will take care of. Motion was then made by Carolyn H., seconded by Amy, to approve the other Financials as presented. All Aye. Carried.
5. **Promo** –Had money left over, so was able to go back to all participating retail stores and purchase an additional \$25 Gift Certificate to be given away for the Holiday Promotions. Community Award Banquet will be held at Echo Valley Banquet Center January 28th, 2017. We will be choosing Volunteers in Health, Education, Community Service, Religion, Youth, Historic Preservation, and new category Business of the Year, from nominations we have received.
Design – Held a bench dedication November 25th for Merlin Dunt and Bob Vagts, and shared memories over cookies and coffee at the Chamber office after.
Community Develop –Nick advised the Alco building owners still are not budging on their price, but are coming to view the building by the end of the year. They have said they would consider leasing the building again as an option. Nick is still looking into the possibility of how the City could help with benefits for the Director position. Villont's building could potentially be another project to rehab through Main Street, as he would get some tax benefit gifting to a non-profit. Kevin advised the word on the street is that it would not be a good idea, as it will take a lot of money and may not be worth it. Patrick added that Villont is wanting to work a couple more years, so rent could potentially be there. And the County Attorney's office would probably replace him, which could continue to rent from us. More discussion will be needed on this.
Organization – Comedian is booked for February 25, 2017 at Echo Valley. Also requested everyone to turn in the Director review within the next 2 weeks.
Business Improve. – Discussed if Coffee/Conversation kind of takes care of this committee as we host them every other month and share info between businesses that are present. Unionland would like to see us come up with a new West Union Image Campaign with the new businesses we have gained. Brandy mentioned a drone video and revamping the website with IROC. Amie asked Brandy to talk with KVIK radio to see what bundles they could offer if we do a group campaign.
6. Membership Updates –\$6,920 is in to date for Investment drive. Had newspaper take a photo of the Board all handing in their checks. Will review at January meeting and then setup business visits for the Board to do.
7. Melody advised she will be assuming additional duties at Good Sam, and has submitted her resignation effective immediately. Motion was regretfully made by Gail, seconded by Carolyn W. to approve her request. All Aye. Carried.
Bob Thanked Melody, as well as Carolyn W., Carolyn H. and Jane whose terms are up as well, as they will all be missed on the Board. That leaves the Board at 10 members, and Bob asked members to seek out some new interest for next meeting.

Mission: Investing in the Community by bringing people together to achieve a support system that seeks to promote business success and a sense of Community Pride

Vision: Through Community Engagement, create a unique and prosperous downtown to enrich the entire business community of West Union and beyond that embraces History, Preserves Natural Environment, and Promotes Quality Events that instills a Sense of Community Pride

Held Elections for the upcoming year.

Bob – President

Mike – Vice President

Amie – Secretary, Allison as Backup

Kevin – Treasurer

Mike is unable to be a Signature on the Account per Edward Jones contract, so Bob, Kevin, and Amie will be Signatures.

Main Street Award Nominations:

Everyone voted for our Main Street Volunteer of the Year by secret ballot Bob will tally the votes.

For Main Street Awards, Bob/Jess will prepare the Trunk N Treat event; Patrick will do Salon D’Vine; Mike will do the Magician; and Amie will do Antiques & Gifts on Vine. Need to collect information and pictures to submit in January/February. Banquet will be April 7th in Des Moines for anyone who would like to attend.

8. **Director’s Report** - Brandy can get a scholarship through Main Street for the NOW Conference in PA, but would still need flight and room, and feels our money could be better spent towards closer events. Board agreed. Brandy passed out a new schedule for Main Street Minute to go in the Union and a signup sheet to attend Council meetings. Discussed snow removal. Dan Hope increased his charge to \$1,050 for the season. Board asked Brandy to seek more bids, and maybe even negotiate with Dan for a better price.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jane, seconded by Melody. All Aye. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

Next meeting: January 10, 2017 at 7am.

Total Volunteer Hours to be Logged: 16.25 Hours

Submitted by Amie Johansen

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