

Present: Eric Beier, Mike Buchanan, Pierre Garcia, Brad Heldt (zoom), Dawn Kincaid, Andrea Marquez, Kathryn I. Martens (Secretary/Treasurer), Katie O'Neill, Karen Tobin, Grace Todd, Tim Urban (zoom) and Mike Wheeland; Mayor Haig Haleblian, Heather Maieritsch (Economic Development Manager, City of Crystal Lake), and Catherine Peterson (President, Chamber)

Absent: Leah Jackson, Stacy Mason, Chris Slack

1. Call to Order

1.1. Welcome. The meeting was called to order at 7:33 a.m. by Chair Karen Tobin.

1.2. City of Crystal Lake. Mayor Haleblian and Heather Maieritsch provided updates on projects and activities within the City of Crystal Lake.

- Mayor Haleblian reported on his trip to Springfield as a part of the McHenry County Council of Governments. Topics addressed include SB 25 (solar farms), SB 11 (people over parking), FOIA reform, and LGDF.
- Mayor Haleblian reported that Congressman Bill Foster has secured a grant for \$1M to assist the City of Crystal Lake with the replacement of lead water pipes.
- The CLCC Annual Charity Car Show, aka Cars and Caffeine, will be held in Downtown Crystal Lake on May 17. All proceeds will benefit the Crystal Lake Food Pantry.
- Heather Maieritsch reported that 7 Brew is expected to open at the end of March.

2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approval of 01/30/26 Board Minutes

It was moved by Andrea Marquez and seconded by Eric Beier to approve the minutes of the 01/30/26 Board meeting. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

3.2 Divisions

3.1 Finance Division

3.1.1. Financial Reports. The Board reviewed the Balance Sheet as of 01/30/26, P&L for January 2026 and YTD; Open Invoices as of 01/30/26; and the Financial Report as of 01/30/26. The Networking Groups Balance Sheet as of 01/30/26, P&L for January 2026 and YTD were also reviewed.

It was moved by Mike Wheeland and seconded by Mike Buchanan to accept the Financial Reports for the Chamber and Networking Groups as of 01/30/26. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

4.2 Division Reports

4.2.1. Ambassadors – Brad Heldt encouraged the Directors to purchase tickets for the Annual Dinner on May 7 at Crystal Lake Country Club. He also noted that Jason Herbster would be recognized at the Crystal Lake Park District meeting on March 18.

4.2.2. Community Services – Grace Todd reported that the planning for the Community Clean-Up event is underway. The Chamber is partnering with the Crystal Lake Park District and the City of Crystal Lake. Community Clean-Up is Saturday, April 18. The Oscar award will go to the largest group. This year's event includes a drug take back program and shoe donations. There will be no lunch sponsors this year. Signage announcing the clean up efforts in designated parks will be placed to encourage participation from people who use the parks.

4.2.3. Member Benefits – Chris Slack was absent but provided a written report. Treasurer Martens noted the Monday Night Football (MNF) event financial history (10 years) that was provided with Chris's report. When MNF began in 2016 the event had a net income of over \$14K. Net income has steadily declined to only \$2,907 in 2025. The Finance Committee reviewed this data and recommended that the Member Benefits division, under which the event falls, consider sunseting

the event. Chris Slack, as Vice-Chair of Member Benefits division, agrees with this recommendation. As a result, MNF will not be included in the FY 26/27 budget.

- 4.2.4. Business Development** – Michael Buchanan reported on Representative Suzanne Ness' visit to Camfil on February 6. Mike wrote a letter thanking her for visiting.

- 5. President's Report** – Written report was included in the packet.

6. Membership

6.1 Membership Report - President Peterson presented the Membership Report for the month of January 2026. 3 members requested to drop, and the Finance Committee did not recommend that any members be dropped for non-payment of dues. There were 7 new members, for a net increase of 4 new members in January.

It was moved by Dawn Kincaid and seconded by Karen Tobin to approve the January 2026 new members and accept the members that requested to be dropped. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

- 7. Chairperson's Report** – Past Chair Eric Beier presented the names of persons who have agreed to serve on the 2026 Nominating Committee. They are Mike Wheeland, Dawn Kincaid, Steve Rogers, and Jeff Lord.

It was moved by Kathryn Martens and seconded by Mike Buchanan to approve the 2026 Nominating Committee as presented. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

- 8. Other Items for Board Consideration** – Dawn Kincaid asked if there have been any discussions about what the Chamber will do to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our country's independence in July 2026?

- 9. Upcoming Events** - The list of upcoming events was included in the packet.

- 10. Heard Around Town** – None.

- 11. Adjournment** – Chair Tobin adjourned the meeting at 8:26 am