

**Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce  
Board of Directors Minutes – June 22, 2018**

**PRESENT:** Pamela Bialas, Leslie Blake, Gary Bonick, Dawn Gilman, Rebecca Heisler, Matt Horist, Penny Hughes, Randy Leggee, Doug McAllister, Mary Miller, Kelly Roewer, Randy Smith and staff members Mary Margaret Maule, Alli Magit, Bonnie Miller, Sharon Reppinger and Jackie Ruiz

**ABSENT:** Chris Christensen, Sue Dobbe-Leahy, Rik Fregia, Trent Gordon, Jennifer Johnson, Robyn Ostrem, Andrew Szocka and Robert Zalud

**CALL TO ORDER:** Randy Leggee called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Pam Bialas moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Kelly Roewer seconded the motion and all approved.

**CITY OF CRYSTAL LAKE:** Heather Maieritsch reported she gave McHenry County Food Bloggers and Travel Writers a tour around Crystal Lake. They had dinner at 1776 and did a tasting of Julia Ann's custard, stopped at Duke's at Three Oaks, Crystal Lake Brewing and Conscious Cup Coffee. Heather met with Kathryn Jones, Associate Vice President of the Workforce Development at MCC. The City Council is not in favor of zoning the Sports Authority space as a storage facility. An entertainment user has an eye of the site. A medical user is taking two of the three vacant space in the Corner Bakery building. The Gas Depot is going through the process to become an Amoco. The Boston Market building has generated some interest. Ulta is moving along with a late August opening. Steinhafels is a behind schedule but still planning a fall opening. The city is working with a broker to start marketing the old Culver's property. Today's Uniforms is moving into the O'Reilly's Glass space. The Retro Bistro space has had some interest but the owner has not been returning calls. Paul Leech has purchased the Dawn's Bread space and is in the process of remodeling. He also took on the contract at Three Oaks Recreation and has purchased Half Time Pizza at the corner of Oak St. and 176.

**OTHER DIVISION REPORTS:**

**Ambassadors:** Rebecca Heisler reported the Ambassadors are hosting a September event on Succession Planning for your business. They will have speakers presenting on the following topics: a business transitioning to a family member, selling your business to a third party and an employee buyout of the business.

**Young Professionals:** Leslie Blake reported the YP's are in transition with newer members coming in and a desire for an informal structure with more on building social relationships and less on business development. They are working with Mary Margaret on re-structuring. Their Board chair has resigned so they are also restructuring the Executive Committee. Volunteers are needed for the Lakeside Beer Tent on the evening of July 4<sup>th</sup>. You can sign up online.

**P.I.C.A.:** On behalf of the YP's, Leslie Blake presented a P.I.C.A. nomination for Crystal Lake Brewing. Matt Horist moved to accept the nomination. Dawn Gilman seconded the motion and all approved.

**FINANCE:** Mary Miller asked for any questions on the 2018/2019 proposed Budget. Leslie Blake moved to approve the 2018/2019 Budget as presented. Pam Bialas seconded the motion and all approved. Mary Miller presented the proposed Operating Reserve Policy and the proposed Investment Policy for review. She will bring both to a vote at the July 27, 2018 Board meeting. Mary presented the May 2018 Financials and noted the Chamber is in good shape. Pam Bialas moved to approve the May 2018 Financials as presented. Gary Bonick seconded the motion and all approved.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Alli Magit reported there were 9 new members and 12 drops ending the month at 927. The retention rate is at 86.11%. Randy Leggee read the new member list. Mary Miller moved to approve the Membership Report as presented. Penny Hughes seconded the motion and all approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Mary Margaret attended the Chicago Metro Planning Commission and reported they are currently on a 20/20 Plan and moving to a 20/50 Plan. They take a regional approach to transportation and employment. They are reaching out to the City of Crystal Lake EDC and McHenry County EDC for data to see what's globally going on.

Mary Margaret introduced Donna Sather as the new receptionist and will be bringing her on full time. Bonnie Miller has resigned and is moving to Bloomington to be by her family and has accepted a position at their local Chamber of Commerce. We have had a few staff changes and all those who have left are going on to much larger opportunities. With each change the Chamber has grown.

We are in the process of scheduling Candidate Forums in August and September. Congressman Peter Roskam is scheduled for August 2<sup>nd</sup>, Candidate Sean Casten for August 9<sup>th</sup> and Candidate Lauren Underwood for August 16<sup>th</sup>. We are working on dates with Representative Hultgren and Skillicorn. Senator McConnaughay is not running for office. There are two candidates running for Senator Althoff's seat. We are also in conversation with Governor Rauner for a Forum in September. There are two candidates running for Attorney General and we have no dates set at this time.

The Parade will be held on July 7<sup>th</sup>. We have 107 entries and are in need of Parade Marshals. The Blue Star Banner program will be represented in the Parade by the VFW.

The P & L statement shows we are \$37,000 above budget. We are waiting on the Foundation Grant and royalties from the NWH Community Guide. With staffing changes and the payroll costs with Bonnie leaving, the P & L will change a little bit. The finances are in great shape but it will be different.

**CHAIRMAN REPORT:** Randy Leggee thanked Chris Christensen for a good year. He reported the Golf Outing is sold out. He recognized Bonnie for here 17 years at the Chamber and thanked her for her time and dedication. There will be an Open House for Bonnie on June 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 3:30.

**OTHER ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:** Mary Miller reported the Supreme Court ruled that states can require online merchants to collect sales tax.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Donna Sather reviewed upcoming events.

**HEARD AROUND TOWN:**

- McHenry County Patriot Run is Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at MCC
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Golf Outing is July 23<sup>rd</sup> at Boulder Ridge

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Pam Bialas and seconded by Doug McAllister.