

**Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors Minutes – November 16, 2018**

PRESENT: Pam Bialas, Gary Bonick, Dawn Gilman, Trent Gordon, Penny Hughes, Randy Leggee, Doug McAllister, Scott McKeever, Mary Miller, Robyn Ostrem, Kelly Roewer, Catie Schmit, Randy Smith, Andrew Szocka, Tim Urban, Mike Wheeland, Robert Zalud and staff members Mary Margaret Maule, Alli Magit, Sharon Repplinger, Jackie Ruiz, Donna Sather and Deb Wallenfang

ABSENT: Chris Christensen, Matt Horist and Dave Hubbard

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

CONSENT AGENDA: Dawn Gilman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Robyn Ostrem seconded the motion and all approved.

OTHER DIVISION REPORTS: None

FINANCE: Mary Miller reviewed the October financials and reported that cash is good. Pam Bialas made a motion to approve the October Financials as presented. Randy Smith seconded the motion and all approved.

CITY OF CRYSTAL LAKE: Heather reported Steinhafels will be opening in February, Aroma Café and Ding Tea will open after Thanksgiving. Pizza Hut will be opening on Christmas day in the Brixmor Center by Harbor Freight. The Merlin Center had a hang up with their insurance and working to get that resolved. The initial client for the stand alone Sports Authority is leaving the market and the city is working with another client for the property. The city is working on filling the HH Gregg location and the old TJ Maxx space. Mattress Firm is staying in the marketplace by Outback. Colonial Café is under contract with an investor and looking for a restaurant to fill the space. They may demolish the restaurant and create two new spots. There is a contract on the old Pauly Toyota site overlooking Three Oaks and they are looking into dividing it into three lots. One would be retail and two would be fast food. Boston Market may be back up for sale.

MEMBERSHIP: Alli Magit reported there were 3 drops and 6 new members to end the month at 950 with a 96.12% retention rate. We had 96 new members in 2017 and 136 new members in 2018. Randy read the new member list. Doug McAllister moved to approve the Membership Report as presented. Gary Bonick seconded the motion and all approved.

CHAIRMAN REPORT: Randy Leggee reported Jennifer Hall from Mercyhealth will be joining the Board replacing Rik Fregia. Scott McKeever was on air with Joe & Tina at Star 105.5 promoting Community Harvest. The turnout for the Salvation Army mixer was small. He thanked Alli for all her help with the grocery store food drives and reported the food pantry had a record year. He attended the McHenry Scramble and passed on a few notes to Mary Margaret for the Chamber's use at our next scramble.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Mary Margaret congratulated Alli on her one year anniversary. She reported School District 155's Work Force Development Committee is trying to keep the ball moving and inviting more manufacturers and businesses. She attended the IACCE Conference in Peoria and brought back good information from their school workforce that can be implemented here. She stated all of our Illinois State and Federal representatives are now freshmen with the exception of Representative Skillicorn. We have started a relationship with all of them and will be reaching out to schedule visits with each new rep in December. She noted mayoral races will be starting soon.

Recreational marijuana will be legalized in February as one of JB Pritzker's first acts of business. Marijuana is still federally against the law and if you have federal contracts this will affect your business. Employers and employees need

to be educated on this issue. We need to decide as a Board, if we are going to voice into the discussion as a policy stand point. It is up to the City Council to decide if they will allow a dispensary in the city and where they would put it.

The state voted to raise the age to purchase cigarettes to 21. There was an Illinois bill introduced to change the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. The Illinois Chamber is fighting the bill. There is legislation to ban the use of chemicals to sterilize medical devices. Mary Margaret has put a call out to all the hospitals to make them aware.

Building maintenance: there was dampness in the sub-basement that was causing problems so we had a commercial grade de-humidifier installed.

OTHER ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: None

UPCOMING EVENTS: Donna Sather reviewed upcoming events. She stated she has started delivering the Welcome Bags to new residents. Mary Margaret noted Stryker is hiring 350 people and we may start giving the Welcome Bags to new employees.

HEARD AROUND TOWN:

- Ambassador & Board Holiday Luncheon is on Thursday, December 13th.
- The Ambassador's second session of the Business Transition series is Thursday, December 13th at 7:30am on The 4 D's of Succession.
- The Pioneer Center's Holiday Book Review Luncheon is on December 7th
- Bourbon Country is playing at Plum Garden Friday, November 16th
- The Chamber office will close Wednesday, November 21st at Noon for the Thanksgiving Day Holiday.

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Doug McAllister and seconded by Gary Bonick.