

St Helen Chamber of Commerce
October 28, 2019
Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance - The meeting was called to order by President Jan Waltz at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Jan Waltz, Janet Bawol, Tula Alexander and Ed Bergeron were present. John Sutter, Kathy Jernigan and Ray Wlosinski were absent with notice for tonight's meeting. A quorum was present.
3. Additions to the Agenda – None
4. Introduction of Guests – John Bawol was in attendance.
5. Approval of September 24, 2019 minutes- Ed Bergeron made a MOTION to approve the minutes with no corrections. Tula supported. The MOTION carries.
 - A. Correspondence – Jan received information from Mid-Michigan Hospital announcing Hospice training in November. Janet will keep this on file.
6. Treasurer's Report – In Kathy's absence, Jan briefly reviewed the treasurer's report for October 2019. She also gave a brief report regarding the recent Fish Fry. Kathy will go into depth regarding this event during the next chamber meeting.
7. President's Report – Jan reported the results from the recent Halloween decorating contest, she reported that Tula has been meeting with representatives regarding the Iron-Belle Trail and will give a report later in the meeting. Jan is also planning on attending Sen. Curtis Vanderwall's Town Hall meeting in West Branch and will give a report during the next chamber meeting.
 - A. Update on Kirtland – Ed. Ed discussed a recent meeting which he and Mr. O'Rourke from the Roscommon County Road Commission attended. The purpose of this meeting was to investigate perhaps making one or more of the remaining buildings on the Kirtland property into a trade school. Kirtland representatives may put the property up for sale but nothing has been decided yet. Currently some buildings on this property are being demolished, as Kirtland Community College has moved all operations to Grayling. Ed will keep the chamber board updated on any progress they can make with this or any other ideas for use of the property to keep some revenue coming into the St. Helen and Roscommon County areas.
 - B. Iron-Belle Trail- Tula. Tula gave an update of the Iron-Belle Trail. She reported that it is doable to connect to the Ogemaw County portion but Phase 5 will need to be amended for that to work. Tula will keep the chamber board updated on any progress that is made.
8. Committee Reports
 - A. Membership – Jan reported there are some new members to the chamber. Ed plans on visiting some businesses to secure additional new memberships.
 - B. Grants– Kathy has not worked on any grants this past month.
 - C. Christmas Parade – Janet. Janet reported the St. Helen Lake Association is again hosting the Christmas parade, caroling and tree lighting. She discussed some changes that will be made this year such as a notation on the flyer requesting that anyone participating in the parade is not to provide a Santa Claus as it confuses the kids, plus the chamber has a Santa and Mrs. Claus in the parade and at the Township Hall. There was discussion of how to keep the public outside following the parade so that everyone can participate in the caroling and tree lighting. John Bawol suggested a number system each family would receive a number then when the outdoor activities are complete, numbers will be called for families to come into the hall and enjoy the festivities. Jan suggested that a PA system and canopy tent could be available for the outdoor activities. Further discussion on this will take place during the next chamber meeting.
9. Old Business
 - A. Fish Fry – Jan again reported the Fish Fry was a huge success.

B. Annual Appreciation Dinner – Will be held on Monday, November 4 at the Firehouse with food, games and raffle prizes.

10. New Business

A. Recommendation that Tula represent the St. Helen Chamber on matters regarding the Iron-Belle Trail. Jan made a MOTION, Ed supported. The MOTION carries. Ed suggested she could also be involved on behalf of DDA.

11. Items from Audience

A. Improv – John Bawol reported the next Improv is scheduled for Thursday, November 14, at 7:00 p.m. at the Artisan Gallery in Grayling. Each member of the Improv Troupe selects a charity for contributions at the end of the show. During this show, John has selected We Care in St. Helen.

B. Storytelling during Trunk or Treat – Jan reported that many people participated in Trunk or Treat and she saw some children at the Storytelling area. Kathy, and other readers, were dressed in Halloween attire and were reading to the children present.

12. Adjourn – Motion to adjourn by Tula and Ed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Bawol, Secretary