

St Helen Chamber of Commerce
March 25, 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 by Secretary Janet Bawol: Jan Waltz, Janet Bawol, Kathy Jernigan and John Sutter were present. Connie Barton, Bev VanMeter and Ray Wlosinski were absent for tonight's meeting. A quorum was present.
3. Additions to the Agenda – none
4. Introduction of Guests – Mr. Ed Bergeron
5. Approval of February 25, 2019 minutes – John Sutter made a MOTION to approve the minutes with no corrections. Kathy Jernigan supported. The MOTION carried.
6. Correspondence – A letter was received from Mr. Bob Griffin requesting to appear before the Chamber board to update their work at the Nature Park. Jan will place him on the April agenda.
7. Treasurer's Report – Kathy reviewed expenses and receipts for February 2019.
 - a. Licensing- Discussion regarding multiple raffles coming up and not wanting to do two raffles in town at the same time. Suggestion, one raffle to share proceeds.
 - b. Marketing Committee – The countywide tourist guide is complete and is currently being printed.
8. President's Report – Jan reported that a new golf cart company has opened in town. Since BS Liquor has closed, any chamber paperwork and boxes have been moved to a storage unit, which Dean Carpenter and Connie Barton own. They are charging the chamber a reduced rate and obtaining chamber memberships in lieu of the difference. The next Community Garden meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26 at 6:00 p.m. Renee Keppen and Jan will be working on the butterfly garden to have it ready for spring and summer visitors. Mr. Justin Plunkett will have a food truck at the Chamber Kick-off event in May. The invoice for annual event insurance has not been received yet, Jan will look into this.
9. Committee Reports
 - A. Membership – Kathy and Ed. When the weather breaks, Kathy, Jan and Ed will visit businesses in St. Helen, who do not belong to the Chamber, to encourage membership.
 - B. By-Laws Review – Following this meeting, Jan, Ed and Janet will briefly meet to begin discussions on updating the Chamber By-laws.
10. Old Business
 - A. Summer Kick-Off – Kathy J and Bev V. Kathy reported that Miss Michigan will be at the Summer Kick-off event. She has agreed to facilitate some of the kid's games, Paws and Claws will have an adoption table during the event and Kathy visited the Pet Expo held recently in West Branch and inquired if any of the vendors would be interested in coming to the Summer Kick-Off event. John reported that We Care will have hotdogs during this event. Kathy would also like to have other organizations at the event such as DDA and St Helen Lake Association, etc. to discuss their individual groups. Kathy is going to apply for a grant through the Roscommon County DDA Marketing Committee for a large banner to hang across St. Helen Road advertising the event. She will update the board on this request during the next meeting.

- B. Credit Card Acquisition – Kathy. The credit card has been received and has been given to Vickie.
- C. Beautification of Lake and Community -Ed. Ed discussed some groups which he will be visiting to discuss this concept such as the M-55 Beautification committee, etc. He indicated the Roscommon DDA/Boy Scouts are working on a similar project for their area. He mentioned that AARP has a Community Challenge Grant which gives money to small communities for projects such as this. He will look into this grant with this group. He is also going to attend the NE Council of Governments Regional Property meeting in Gaylord, to discuss the beautification concept. He will report back on these meetings during the April Chamber meeting.

11. New Business

- A. Request for Funds for Roscommon/Houghton Lake Expos. Kathy reviewed applications for Roscommon/Houghton Lake Expos. Kathy made a MOTION to approve \$90.00 for application submission costs, John supported. The MOTION carried.
- B. Easter Egg Hunt Donation – Kathy made a MOTION the Chamber donate \$50.00 for this yearly event, Janet supported. The MOTION carried.
- C. Website update/maintenance. Kathy reported the annual invoice is \$179.88 for Chamber website with Homestead. Vickie keeps it updated now. Members approved this annual expense.

12. Items from Audience Members – Ed reported that he was speaking with representatives from the Ogemaw County Herald and they suggested the Chamber send them a list of the summer events so they can place it in their publication.

13. Adjourn – Motion to adjourn by Jan and John. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Bawol, Chamber Secretary