



St. Helen Chamber of Commerce

February 24, 2020

Meeting Minutes

- I. Meeting was called to order at 6pm. Pledge of Allegiance recited by all in attendance
- II. Roll Call: Jan Waltz, Janet Bawol, Tula Alexander, John Sutter, Kathy Jernigan were present. Ed Bergeron and Ray Wlosinski were absent with notice A quorum was present
- III. Additions to the Agenda---Janet requested Santa Comes to St. Helen
- IV. Introduction of Guests: Roberta Cary and John Bawol
- V. Approval of January 2020 Minutes...a motion was made by John Sutter to accept the minutes as presented and the motion was seconded by Kathy Jernigan. Motion passed.
 - a. Correspondence—None
- VI. Treasurer’s report—Kathy reviewed expenses and income from February 2020.
- VII. President’s Report;
 - a. Kathy and Jan discussed the upcoming Quilt Day Tour. The event cost is \$10.00 which includes lunch and a bus tour of the Roscommon County Quilt Blocks. Two dollars of this amount will go to Meals on Wheels. There will be quilts displayed at the Township Hall with a raffle and silent auction. Two tours will be hosted on that day.
 - b. Coordinated meeting of Leaders of Community Organizations and Clubs – Kathy discussed this event scheduled for March 26 at 7:30 a.m. Correspondence will be sent out to organizations and clubs in the St. Helen area to meet and discuss the different events which each group is holding in 2020. The idea is to get as much event information on the St. Helen Chamber calendar as possible. Ultimately, this would be an annual event.
- VIII. Standing Committee reports;
 - a. Membership: Kathy reported that two more businesses have joined the Chamber. She also discussed charging owners of businesses with more than one business in the area a reduced membership rate. Also, if a business is seasonal, a prorated membership amount would be charged each year. A draft of possible changes will be brought back to the board at the next meeting.
 - b. Grants: Tula reported that the Iron Belle Trail in the St. Helen area is finalized so she can apply for appropriate grants. The community garden is located directly on the trail so that will allow for grant submission. She also talked about new directional signs which will be installed at different locations in St. Helen. Tula brought some preliminary photos of the signs for the group to review. The road commission is donating the poles for the signs while the Snow packers volunteered to install the signs. (later info, the county has to install them)
 - c. Raffles – Kathy discussed the annual raffle. The tickets will be sold for \$25.00 per ticket and only 100 will be sold. She discussed the idea of a weekend getaway for whomever wins the raffle. Ideas for this include Mackinac Island or Charlevoix. This will be discussed further during the next chamber meeting.
- IX. Old Business
 - a. BBQ Contest - Grange has everything all set for the annual BBQ contest. He is talking about this being his last year hosting this event during the Summer Kick off. He will keep the board updated whether he will take it on again next year.
 - b. Directional Signs – Tula This was discussed earlier in the meeting.
 - c. Meet and Greet Forums – Discussion took place of hosting one before the primary, possibly in June and another one before the general election. A secure date will be discussed during the March meeting.
 - d. Summer Kick- Off Kathy reported that the park is secured for our use. Letter will be going out to the vendors and she discussed some ideas for this event on May 16 such as a corn hole contest, beard and mustache contest, pet parade, etc.
 - e. Medallion Hunt- The winner of this annual event won \$100.00 this year. Fultz Insurance sponsored and raised the amount this year.
- X. New Business:
 - a. Santa Comes to St. Helen – Janet and John Bawol briefly discussed the 2019 parade and ideas for next year’s event. Comments the Lake Association heard were mostly why the parade/events are the same day at the West Branch Christmas events. It was agreed that the 2020 event will be opposite of the West Branch events. John discussed

some ideas for additional exterior lights outside of the Township Hall. Kathy is going to talk to the businesses and others about additional lighting throughout the town this year.

XI. Additional Items

- a. Kathy reported that the Commission on Aging is interested in purchasing the sound system for \$500.00. Board agreed to sell it to them with the caveat that the chamber could use the system, if necessary.
- b. Meals on Wheels is hosting their annual event, Soup on March 14 at the Community Center.
- c. John Sutter discussed the Mystery Theatre/Dinner which they are hosting on March 21 at the VFW Hall. Tickets are \$10.00. Spaghetti will be served.
- d. Kathy also discussed having a Memorial Day celebration with a parade, bagpipes and a ceremony at the Veteran's Memorial. She will discuss this further during the next meeting.

XII. Adjournment – Tula made a motion to adjourn, John supported. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Bawol, Secretary

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