

Belle Plaine Chamber of Commerce

Wednesday, August 4, 2021

12:00 PM

Belle Plaine Community Center

Minutes

**Attendance:** Allison Everhart, Matt Hutchison, Kelly Arnberger, Deb Waggoner, Annette Simpson, Bill Berry, Lonny Stieben, David Heater, Teresa Heater, Cindy Lawrey, Nicole Campbell, Tina Friend

**Minutes and Treasurer's Report:** Tina presented minutes and David presented financial report; Tina moved to accept as written, Deb seconded; passed unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**National Night Out**—Bill Berry; reported a good turnout, Deb Waggoner did a fabulous job of promoting event. Tina Friend ran donut walk and door prize table; gave out 70 products, ½ dozen donuts, cinnamon rolls from local business Dodgin' Rolls, mugs, and gift cards. Donors were Krispy Kreme, Dunkin', Crumbl Cookies, and Dodgin' Rolls. There were 35-40 prizes for kids and adults given out as door prizes. The Methodist Church gave out cookies, the Baptist Church gave out snow cones and garden produce, the Church of Christ gave out ice cream, 4-H gave out watermelon. A new business, Split Ends, had a booth, as well as social rehabilitation service.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July**—Allison Everhart; the Boy Scouts did a good job of running it. Attendance was low, there was discussion of moving it back to football field. David suggested having a softball game.

**Chamber website changes**—Deb Waggoner; Meet Your Neighbors is new, Business directory was added back in. Deb reported page is done.

**Wheat Festival**—Allison; this was first time Belle Plaine has been involved. Will meet with Valerie Earl for future involvement, hopefully with more lead time. It was very HOT! The Museum banner was carried, people rode in the DoodleBug; Chamber, Festival, and Museum information was handed out. Considered possibly having something at Sumner County Fair 2022.

**Chamber Membership**—Split Ends is a new member and receives first year free. Allison and Deb will produce a blurb for Chamber to be included in City's next quarterly mail out. Teresa moved and Bill seconded to publish minutes on Chamber website and in Belle Plaine News from here on out; passed unanimously.

**Bank business**—David Heater; past executive officers need removed from checking account and safe deposit box signing authority and new officers need added. Julie Gooch, Shelly Stewart, Jim Sutton, and Michele Enochs need removed and Allison Everhart, Bill Berry, Tina Friend, and David Heater need added. David moved for it to be noted in minutes each year to update signing authority for new executive officers and remove old officers. Matt seconded. After discussion Kelly moved to accept motion as presented; passed unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Stage**—Tina Friend; Stage is here! This was a surprise, because it was scheduled for January 2022, but better early than late. Jeff Cox and crew set it up, it looks great and is very sturdy. Still needs a trailer to store it in, and possibly transport dollies. Another need/want is a shade canopy, and options are being explored for that. David was asked about funds that had been set aside to build a stage; are they still available? Could they be put toward storage and canopy? David was also asked to make sure Chamber has adequate insurance to cover this new asset.

Teresa moved and Matt seconded that Belle Plaine Chamber of Commerce accept donation and ownership of stage; passed unanimously.

**Fundraising**—It was agreed that fundraising efforts would go toward stage needs, for the time being. Cindy moved and Matt seconded; passed unanimously.

Red Wheel Pizza—Allison is coordinating; she will send out order info by email ASAP. She will get delivery date and secure Community Center for pickup.

Kansas Star concessions—Annette gave dates of upcoming events. NEED VOLUNTEERS!!

August 27 6:30-10 pm—Clint Black

September 4—Rock of the 70s

September 11—America

September 24—Gin Blossoms

September 25—Air Supply

November 5—Commodores

**Halloween**—tabled to discuss at September meeting

## **Community News:**

### **City News:** Bill Berry

- maintenance dept; working intersection of 10<sup>th</sup> and Line. Rebuilding Friend street bridge to Watson Park  
city has been approved (after applying several times) for CLIP grant; this will provide funding for new curbing on 4<sup>th</sup> street/highway 55 corridor through town. This is projected to happen in 2023, in tandem with Arkansas River bridge replacement east of town.
- encouraged businesses impacted by Covid to apply for \$15,000-\$30,000 grants; contact Linda Stinnet at city office for specifics.
- new police officers
  - Teresa Bateman—full time as of August 1
  - Jeremy Watts—SRO. He is a 20 year veteran and DARE certified. He was at training first week of August and will be ready when school starts.

### **School News:** Kelly Arnberger

- school starts August 12
- August 9-10-11 planning and pre-service for staff

- also on these dates from 11am-1pm, food trucks will be in high school parking lots, and will be open to community.
- will continue the Google Meet on Tuesdays at 4pm
- working to keep pandemic in reasonable perspective; recommending vaccine and mask, but not requiring unless Governor and/or school board rule otherwise.
- 29 staff members are trained in Pathways to Reading program which promotes age 0-9 Learn to Read, age 9-lifetime Read to Learn.
- C.J. Carey is on board as an advocate/ambassador for post-secondary success. He will work with seniors on secondary education, vocational training, and apprenticeship opportunities. He will also be partnering with Udall. More info to come.
- Kelly has very high hopes for USD 357 and the community of Belle Plaine.

**Any Other News:**

**Lonny**—work continues combining TVT and SKT; company will be known as SKT

**Teresa**—Valley Ridge Elder Care (VREC) received a \$12,000 donation from a family group; working on transferring land site ownership to VREC; application to community tax grant to raise 10% still needs more funding.

**Cindy**—will visit Clay Center KS Sampler August 24, to learn about municipal murals and bringing art and artists to town. Needs to be on September agenda NEW BUSINESS.

**Adjourn:** Teresa moved to adjourn, Bill seconded

**Next meeting September 1, 2021 at David's Diner, 12pm**