

Houston Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting

Monday, February 20, 2023 5:30 p.m.

Minutes

- I. Call to Order
- II. Additions to the Agenda – No additions to the agenda.
- III. January Meeting Minutes – Motion made by Ron Evenson and seconded by John Evenson
- IV. Treasurer’s Report
 - a. Balance as of 2/20/23 -
 - b. Microsoft Office 365(to be on the cloud so we can store all work documents to share with whoever may need them. The cost is \$69.99/year. Bill for Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for \$80.36 that Margaret paid for. Both bills approved Motion made by Chris Schroeder and seconded by John Evenson
- V. Old Business
 - a. Explore Mn Grant Marketing – Visit Bluff Country Ad – approved, need to pay the bill of \$513.00. Will reimburse ½ of the fee in June from the grant. – Paid in February.
 - i. Margaret will send out a copy of the ad to the board members.
 - b. Holidazzle update – Margaret to get a break down of Park income and expenses and discuss with Marlene Schultz and verify we have everything categorized in the right spot.

Talked about putting up a donation box at the Park the night the lights get turned on. Discussed the cost of trees and increase the price of the trees for the actual price of the trees. Both the Park Committee and School Committee have applied for a grant from Operation Round up. We were told that any fund request from DLC should go to Chris Schroeder and he will pass on to the other committee members.

- c. Houston Bucks – New flyers (working on) – Will be able to print them off at Bluff Country Financial or at the Dental office to make color copies.
- d. Membership Drive, at the present time we have 28 members as of 2/20/23. Ashley and Margaret are going to follow up with some more businesses.
- e. Annual Chamber Meeting will take place on Monday March 20th at Timeless Creations at 5:30 p.m. We will also be holding our annual Election of Officers at the Annual Meeting. Margaret has contacted Allison Wagner to see if she would like to come and do a presentation at our annual meeting and if she is unable to attend Margaret will see if she can find someone else to come and talk. The Fillmore County Journal might also come to the annual meeting if they have someone available to attend.

VI. New Business

- a. BAM (Bicycle around Minnesota) Saturday August 19th. Chamber is going to be providing Breakfast to the group. BAM has provided us with a menu that they would like us to make. Margaret is to check with Mary the coordinator of BAM on how many bikers and how much of each item she recommends.

- b. Chamber to follow up with DLC on Decorations for the poles for Christmas to follow up next month. DLC has a brochure and Margaret will check with Chris Schroeder on where they are at with this.
- c. City Entrance Signs, Ashley suggested that we contact Mrs. Sobotta at the high school to see if anybody needs to have hours for National Honor Society. Margaret is also going to talk to Rushford State Bank and see if they would like to take on the entrance on the North side of Houston.
- d. Chamber 1st impression Margaret to go thru the past report that we received a few years back and see if we can find another town to work and maybe do a new survey.
- e. Ribbon Cutting for new businesses.
 - i. Timeless Creations (2-10-23), Margaret stated that the Ribbon Cutting went really good and that there is a little article in the Fillmore Country Journal about the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.
 - ii. Evolv Fitness will be 3-25-23, Margaret will contact Evolv of what time they would like to do the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Margaret will keep everyone updated on time.
 - iii. May is National Historic Month and we will work plan on doing a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Forsyth House and Museum. Margaret will work with Michelle Hoskins on date and time. Michelle and Shelly distributed new brochures that they have made up for the Forsyth House and Museum. They are going to be disbursing them throughout town and Marlene suggested they give some Krin to take with her to the RR trail meeting.

iv. Ron Evenson brought up that the Lawn Chair Concerts are all lined up and is asking Chamber if they can help with the brochures for the Lawn Chair Concerts.

VII. Adjournment Motion made by John Evenson and seconded by Chris Schroeder adjourned at 6:05 p.m.