

Houston Area Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting
Monday, October 19, 2020, 5:30 p.m., Schroeder Heating & Cooling
Meeting Minutes

Present: Chris Schroeder (President), Rod Torgerson (Vice President), Nancy Forsyth (Treasurer), John Evenson (Secretary), Ron Evenson (Board Member), Marlene Schultz (Chamber Member), Mark Swenson (Chamber Member), Taylor Laschenski (Director)

- I. Meeting was called to order by Chris at 5:35 p.m.
- II. Minutes from September's meeting were approved. Rod motioned to approve, John seconded. Motion carried.
- III. Mention of easement to the City of Houston
- IV. Nancy presented the Chamber's current balance: \$9,567.08.
 - A. \$150 went to the fire department for their calendar.
 - B. Invoice to Lamar paid and reimbursement received from Karla for Explore MN grant
 - C. Nancy will check on the reimbursement schedule to the City of Houston for the Chamber Director position and amount.
- V. Old Business
 - A. Houston Brochure - Taylor is updating. The Chamber is prepared to fund a reprint for next spring/summer after updates are approved.
 1. Taylor will send out the updated version once it's complete and check with the City on possible funding as well.
 - B. Business Trick-or-Treat - This will be held October 30th from 4-6 p.m.
 1. Number of businesses participating is down somewhat; those distributing treats are working to do so outdoors and distance.
 2. Pumpkin decorating contest will be at the Houston Nature Center this year. Pumpkin drop off is 4-5 p.m. and the Hoedown court will judge shortly after.

a) Nancy will provide three \$25 Houston Bucks prizes from the Chamber, one for each age category.

C. Community Center Fundraising - Marlene provided an update on the new community center and possibilities for fundraising.

1. Next steps → Chamber will brainstorm possible fundraising ideas for next spring/summer.

VI. New Business:

A. Discussed the Chamber's annual meeting to take place January 2021. The possibility of providing information and a newsletter to members in lieu of meeting in person was discussed.

1. The board will address this again in November's meeting.

B. Discussed looking into additional grants and funding options for the Chamber and small businesses.

VII. John motioned to adjourn, seconded by Rod. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Submitted by Taylor Laschenski, Director