

Barron Chamber of Commerce Minutes

July 27, 2023

In Attendance: Pat Thornby, Ann Matheny, Mike Nielsen, Lori Van Ess, Bea Lundequam, Karen Schoonover, Jamie Edwards

Guest: Janet Benseend

Meeting Led By: Ann Matheny

There were not enough board members present for a quorum until the end of the meeting. Therefore, the minutes and financials were not reviewed.

Committee Reports:

1. Annual Meeting

- a. Nothing to Report

2. Festival Events

- a. Holiday Lights

Josh is working with Menards to see if we can get donations. We need to figure out where we want to put them. The Tourism Committee is going to donate \$2,000.

- b. Winter Festival

The Tourism Committee will make a donation to this event. A joint meeting will be setup in August with them and the Chamber. Having a bonfire was discussed. We would have to have the Fire Department present and a rider on our insurance. It was discussed having more sleighs and a longer ride. There was discussion if it should be on Friday or Sunday.

3. Music In The Park

- a. We have had all kinds of weather making the number of attendees fluctuate.

Rolling Oaks provided the food last night and there was a lot left over. Dove served the food. They will be having a fund raiser at the Rice Lake Cedar Mall in support of ADRC (Aging & Disability Resource Center).

- b. Family Fun Night had about half the attendance because of weather concerns and being moved to the BACC.

- c. National Night Out will be help on August 1, 2023.. We will provide the band. We will donate some of our left over supplies from Family Fun Night.

4. Retail Promotions

- a. Wine Tasting is coming up and we need to start working on finding food vendors. We gave Chamber Members a \$75 stipend last year. We discussed raising it for Members to \$125 and keeping it at \$75 for non-members. We need to schedule a meeting with Billie Church to discuss the event.
- b. Barron Dollar sales went well with \$2000 income. We will run the sale again this fall.
- c. A meeting will be scheduled in August for Trunk or Treat at Salem. Nothing has been scheduled for the Fall Decorating Contest and Thanksgiving Promotion.

5. Young Ambassador

- a. Nothing to Report

6. Administrative

- a. New Businesses
Treestand Tavern (Ribbon cutting will be scheduled once the kitchen open
- b. Chamber banners will be left up until after the downtown renovation.

8. New and Follow-Up Items

a. Fund Raising

We discussed several events for fund raising including: a cookie walk, golf tournament, and also, possibly having a music event at the BACC this winter.

b. Jamie Edwards is holding an event on September 30th.

The city will close the block. There will be a walk, speakers, food, face painting, live music, etc. All are invited.

Meeting Adjourned.

Pat Thornby