

# Barron Chamber of Commerce Minutes

February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**In Attendance:** Pat Thornby, Ann Matheny, Melissa Gillett, Mike Nielson, Josh Tomsovic, Bea Lundequam, Mike Bigner, Lori VanEss, Jamie Edwards, Tammy Jackson

Guests: Maureen Tollman, Amanda Feldt-Smith

**Meeting Lead By:** Ann Matheny

**Minutes:** Minutes were not available for approval

**Financials:** Financials were postponed to March meeting

## Committee Reports:

1. Annual Meeting
  - a. Annual meeting on February 20<sup>th</sup>
    - i. 42 attendees currently confirmed and planning for 55-60
    - ii. Two meat option with vegetables and rolls
  - b. Award presentation
    - i. Mike Romsos and Byron Miller will be recognized for their years of service
    - ii. Slideshow was presented and approved
2. Business and Industry
  - a. Event was not held in 2022
    - i. Short discussion on the interest in having it in 2023
    - ii. How can we make the event meaningful and well attended
3. Festival Events
  - a. Gave a recap to the new members of what falls under festival events
  - b. Winterfest Recap
    - i. Event was moved to Rolling Oaks golf course this year
      1. Feedback was that the change was well received
  - c. Holiday Lights
    - i. We have been saved a small storage spot within the new City Hall
      1. May need to store items elsewhere temporarily until we find a bigger location
      2. Two Rivers Accounting has offered to store in the basement if needed
4. Music in the Park
  - a. Meeting with Woody to get the ball rolling for the upcoming season
  - b. Performer discussion
    - i. Will have Chris Kroeze again
    - ii. Have had better attendance with the better know bands
      1. Discussed whether to keep certain performers due to the higher cost
        - a. Could use "start-up" artists as opening acts

- c. Family Fun Night
    - i. Set for June 28<sup>th</sup>
      - 1. Opening the pool was well received but a large expense for the chamber in 2022
  - d. Make Music Day
    - i. Will continue to fall under M.I.T.P
    - ii. City of Barron signed up to host again in 2023
      - 1. Expected to have at least the same number of performers or more in 2023
5. Retail Promotions
- a. Holiday Event
    - i. Received lots of great feedback from the event
    - ii. Bea L took on the project and she did a great job
  - b. Wine-Tasting Event
    - i. Tentative date is set for September 7<sup>th</sup>
    - ii. Will be held at The Church Barn again
6. Young Ambassadors
- a. Nothing to report
7. Administrative
- a. Individual Event Committees
    - i. Planning to have set committees for certain areas in 2023
      - 1. Will promote at Annual Meeting to allow for non-board members to sign up for a committee
  - b. Current board chairs
    - i. Terms have been fulfilled and will be looking for other board members to take over the positions
8. New Barron Businesses
- a. Wild Roots
9. New and Follow-up items
- a. Dues
    - i. Still have not received a number of dues for 2023
    - ii. Each board member to follow up with their specific business contacts
  - b. Banners on LaSalle
    - i. Need to be refreshed and updated
      - 1. See if the local businesses would like to sponsor one for their own business as a way of advertisement
  - c. City Christmas Lights
    - i. Lights that are on the poles are outdated and should be updated
      - 1. Possible to partner with tourism committee to get new items
  - d. Webpage
    - i. Was presented for approval and should be live this week

Meeting Adjourned

Josh Tomsovic