

**New Haven Area Chamber of Commerce**  
**BOD Meeting Minutes**  
**July 6, 2023**  
**Location: NH Library-12pm**

**BOD in Attendance:** Acting President, Pastor Steven Sullivan, Secretary, Meg Lang, Treasurer, Debbie Winters, Trisha Reay, Tara Steffens, Clare Swann, Laura Shockley. Not Present: Laura Kohnen

**Members in Attendance:** Josh Hoener, Reagan Aynes, Tony Aynes, Stephanie Gutierrez, John Berger, Dave Luecke, LuAnn Luecke, Sue Viehland, Jeanne Damschroeder, Erin Raedecke

Pastor Sullivan called the meeting to order:

Secretary's Report given by Meg Lang. Laura Shockley motioned for approval. John Berger 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.

Treasurer's Report given by Debbie Winters. Tara Steffens motioned for approval. Jeanne Damschroeder 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.

**Old Business:**

1. **Lawyer Update** given by Director, Tara Steffens.

We sent an emailed letter drafted by Director Laura Kohnen, and approved by the board, to our lawyer, Adam Piontek informing him of Elizabeth Bennett's resignation, and asking for any/all updates, contracts, and correspondences sent from his office on our behalf. He responded saying he could not represent us due to representing Elizabeth. Secretary Meg Lang responded to said email reminding Adam that the Chamber had him on retainer, and he was paid for such in February. After he reached out to the bar for advice, he responded that he needed to withdraw from helping both parties, and we needed to find a new lawyer.

- All contracts and correspondence has been received. We are an active 501c6, both state and federally, however, we have not filed paperwork for the 501c3.

Tara Steffens reached out to some colleagues for lawyer suggestions and was referred to Voss/Politte, and Bailey/Kitchell.

Meg Lang motioned that Tara Steffens research both firms to see get price quotes for retainer. Laura Shockley 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.

2. **Membership Guide Update:**

Laura Shockley updated the membership guide with current events, the membership form and the sponsorship form for the remainder of the year.

- LuAnn Luecke suggested a welcome packet or rack card that we can put at city hall with information about our town and local businesses.  
Public Discussion: Need for a cell phone/google voice , QR code, follow-up with the city about the cell phone tower.

Tara Steffens motioned to price out a rack card to put around town. Clare Swann 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.

3. **BOD Vacancies:**

Pastor Sullivan gave a rundown of what it takes to be on the board. "Teamwork within the community is the goal."

Erin Raedecke said the BOD needs to come up with nominees and reach out to them.

4. **DTNHI Meeting:**

Pastor Sullivan gave an update on his meeting with members of Downtown New Haven Inc. They agreed the goal is to move forward and work together.

- Dave Luecke is upset that the chamber published previous minutes stating that remaining events for the year included the Scarecrow festival and Christmas by Moonlight, both put on by DTNHI without asking for approval from them first. It was explained to him that those were just ideas the Board came up with to help raise money for our organization by setting up food booth or sponsor a bounce house, and were not set in stone.

5. **Central MO Loop:** Tara motioned that we table this until August when Laura Kohlen and Dave Englebrecht can comment. Meg Lang 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.

#### **New Business:**

1. **Balloon Glow:**

- Possible options: picnic license for alcohol (donated by Pinckney Bend and possibly Deep Sleep Brewing- Tara will talk to Nick)
- Pickney Bend has offered to help pay for supplies
- Pork (Reach out to Rich Deppe donate meat)
- Members of the chamber will volunteer to help cook the meat and work the booth
- Bounce House \$325-charge \$5 wristband, donate funds to FBLA
- Porta Potties
- Band for Saturday to help draw more people?

Tara Steffens motioned to table until August to figure out what we want to sell/what can be donated. Clare Swann 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.

2. **Business After Hours:** Need volunteers to Host for Sept. & Nov.

3. **Advertising:** We currently advertise with the New Haven Independent News on a “as needed” basis. Discussed resuming the once-a-month business spotlight.

- Other Options for ads: KLPW monthly spot-give to business of the month if the chamber doesn’t need. KFAV 30 sec spot, Rural MO. Clare and Tara will make a list of potential advertising.

#### **Public Comment:**

**Intros-**Reagan & Tony Aynes introduced themselves and talked about their construction business. Stephanie Gutierrez introduced herself and talked about the art studio she is opening in downtown New Haven.

Clare reminded businesses to send in any info for their business that they would like on the website.

Tara motioned that we move the next meeting to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 instead of Aug. 3, 2023 due to the Washington Fair. Clare Swann 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.

Laura Shockley motioned to adjourn. Debbie Winters 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Minutes Submitted by:

Meg Lang, Chamber Secretary