

## Monmouth Business Association Minutes

November 4, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 7:30am, November 4, 2020 via Zoom.

**Attendees:** Miriam Haugen, Suzanne Dufner, Bill Foster, Kathleen Mason, Sabra Jewell, Marilyn Morton, Kevin Raschko, Emily McNulty

**Meeting Minutes:** Motion made and carried to approve October meeting minutes.

**Financials:** Motion made and carried to approve the financials.

**Officer Nominations:** Nominations are open for all leadership positions – President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Emily McNulty was nominated for Secretary and accepted nomination.

Kevin was nominated for Treasurer and accepted nomination.

Miriam will talk with John regarding President position.

We also need someone appointed to the Chamber Board to represent the MBA. Miriam will talk with Sandra Paoli to see if she is interested in serving in this capacity.

Miriam will draft an email to MBA list to seek out possible representatives for Chamber Board and nominees for officers.

**MBA Website:** The city received some grant funds that will be used to develop an MBA website. Tori Stutzman, a WOU alum, will develop the website and the city is finalizing a contract with her. The city was also able to leverage some CARES act funds to possibly update/revamp MBA logo. John, Miriam, Emily, Suzanne and Tori met last week to discuss needs and ideas for layout and content. Intent of website is to reach visitors/residents and businesses. Pictures are needed of Monmouth businesses and community activities – send to Miriam if you have any we can use.

**Small Business Saturday/Making Spirits Bright:** Susan, Kathleen, Suzanne and Emily met and came up with some ideas. The focus will be:

- Decorate your store front to compete for the Griswold Award by November 20
- Submit your gift ideas for Shop Local Holiday Gift Guide [sdufner@ci.monmouth.or.us](mailto:sdufner@ci.monmouth.or.us)
- Create a Saturday Special that we can promote for Small Business Saturday (online and maybe something in the IO)
- Use #monmouthbright for any holiday promotion posts on social media
- WOU tree lighting will be an online production this year; no in person activities
- City of Monmouth will be organizing a residential decorating competition

- City of Monmouth will do an official Small Business Saturday proclamation and press release.
- Kathleen signed the chamber up to receive things from American Express and their formal Small Business Saturday efforts
- Arts & Cultural Commission will promote “Artisans Sunday” and encourage the community to support local artisans
- A Gnome Hunt activity will be taking place throughout Polk County. Organizers are looking for 4 Monmouth locations to participate and have scavenger hunt clues on hand. Miriam will work to identify 4 businesses and connect with Shelly from Dallas.

**10 Tuesday Promotion:** Chamber will be taking on this initiative and will tie it with Small Business Saturday activities.

**Halloween:** A scavenger hunt, business decorating competition (congratulations to winner Craft Bar West!) and costume contest were held. Miriam will talk to Traci Weston to see about a trophy for Craft Bar West. Emily and Sabra will judge the costume contest. Winners of costume contest will receive a \$10 gift certificate curtesy of Main St. Ice Cream.

## **Announcements**

### *MI Chamber of Commerce*

- Annual MICC meeting will be on November 12<sup>th</sup>. Elections will be taking place.

### *City of Monmouth*

- City grants deadline has been extended to November 5<sup>th</sup>. 25 businesses have applied. Still collecting all necessary information from applicants. Grant awards will not be received for at least a couple more weeks.
- Marty Wine – new city manager, started this week.

### WOU

- WOU is working on holiday tree lighting show.
- Students will leave November 25<sup>th</sup> and not return until January 4<sup>th</sup>.

Next meeting is December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 at 7:30am.