

## Monmouth Business Association Minutes

July 1, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 7:35am, July 1, 2020 via Zoom.

**Attendees:** Miriam Haugen, Suzanne Dufner, Bill Foster, John Bracken, Jeff Glodt, Sabra Jewell, Trina Horsey, Jeff Rose, Jason Saunders, Emily McNulty

**Introductions:** Each person introduced themselves.

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

**Financials:** Donation made to food banks and masks purchased. Not much else to report. Motion to approve the financials made and carried.

**10 Tuesday Promotion:** In partnership with IDA, City of Independence and Chamber businesses will be promoting \$10 specials on Tuesdays. Businesses are encouraged to develop a special and promote it on the event Facebook pages. There is an event for reach date. There is no end date. A flyer will be made to disseminate and get out via MBA email and city newsletter.

**New Student Feed:** WOU classes begin September 28<sup>th</sup>. Kelly Welch is the organizer of student week activities and a good contact. Committee should meet soon to start planning what this year's new student feed might entail. Kevin is chair and Chuck is the committee member.

**Food Bank:** \$500 donation was made to the Ella Curran Food Bank. Businesses have donated \$100.

**Mask Distribution:** Bill still has masks available if businesses need any. Contact him directly. There was a request that businesses work to band together to promote and require masks in Monmouth businesses. Perhaps there could be a cooperative for purchasing masks, hand sanitizer, and then a public commitment by businesses to enforce mask requirements. Jeff Glodt will take the lead and convene a group to discuss this idea further. Miriam will reach out to Kathleen, Kate and Courtney. Suzanne will discuss with Polk County partners about bulk purchases.

Wolfie visited 5 local businesses and a video was made that models good social behaviors and supporting local businesses. Chamber is helping to facilitate. The video will be posted on Minet, Youtube, university marketing channels and chamber marketing channels. Will be doing the same thing in Independence.

Emily reached out to the city regarding enhancing the ambiance of downtown. City is exploring options for new picnic tables. The ones in Main Street Park are often getting moved around. To

do any type of lighting electrical capacity will need to be enhanced and it will be a cost that we will need to explore further. Perhaps solar lighting could be an option.

City Council needs people for economic development committee. Miriam will sit on committee. Goal is to create a draft plan by the end of the summer.

### **Announcements**

Chamber – Has office space available for rent. Contact Kathleen for more information.

City of Monmouth – The grant & loan program has rolled out. Information is posted on the city webpage. Businesses who have not received any PPP and EIDL funding will be given priority. All businesses can apply. City has some additional funds for loan program. City may receive more CARE funds.

WOU – Planning to be back in session for the fall.

Crush plans to start doing wine tours again soon.

Grain Station is now open at 7am.

Minet is expanding into Dallas.

Meeting adjourned at 9am. Next meeting is August 5<sup>th</sup>.