

Minutes, MBA meeting of 6/1/22, held at the Monmouth Library

-
- Miriam Haugen, President
- Nicki Marazzani, Chamber
- Bill Foster, Kampfner Realty
- Suzanne Dufner, City of Monmouth
- Kevin Raschko, Columbia Bank
- Jeff Rose, Main Street Ice Cream
- Phyllis Bolman, City of Monmouth
- Tori Stutzman, Sparklet Marketing
- Roxanne Beltz, Marketing consulting, Monmouth City Council
- Sabra Jewell, WOU
- Chris Lopez, Insurance broker, Monmouth City Council
- John Bracken, Crush
- Justin Sunada, WOU
- Kelly Carmichael, Ash Creek Auto Glass
- Chantelle Ramcharan, The Sippery
- Michael Irons, Mungo
- Lacey Johnson, Curves
- Ellen Osborne, City of Monmouth
- Marilyn Morton, Independence City Council, 2C1C (acting secretary for this meeting)

Meeting was called to order by Miriam Haugen at 8 AM

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. Marilyn Morton moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting, Jeff Rose 2nd, motion passes unanimously.

The financial report was reviewed by Kevin Raschko. Bill Foster moved to approve the financial report, Kelly Carmichael 2nd, motion passed unanimously.

Introductions were made, and Justin Sunada presented on the Service Learning and Career Development Office at WOU, including the employer-paid internship program accepting applicants in the fall, and commencing with Winter Term 2023 through the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Interns will commit to 10 hours/week for 20 weeks.

Reports:

University Connections Committee has had some successes. They will oversee creation of a “welcome to town” coupon book for new students. WOU is sharing many more campus activities with the community.

Music in the Park. Dry Town Station likely participating with off site entertainment. Ash Creek Arts Center will be in the park on Wednesdays for all 9 season performances. Banners going up before the 4th of July. Volunteers wishing to help should contact MBA President Miriam Haugen. Still seeking prizes for drawings, i.e., branded swag or coupons. The Chamber will have a table, as will the Monmouth Council.

Student Welcome Celebration is September 20, 5-7:30 PM in Main Street Park.

History & Mystery in Monmouth update. So far story-telling participants include Chris Lopez, Miriam Haugen, John Bracken, Jason Waggoner (Yeasty Beasty), and Chantelle Ramcharan. 25 historic locations have been identified, and there will be 8-10 stops for volunteers to tell stories to guests. September 30, 7 PM, downtown Monmouth, with focus on the businesses.

4th of July activities discussed. Schedule is available.

Eugene is hosting the World Athletic Track/Field competition July 15-24. This will have an effect on Monmouth/Independence. Hotels and lodging are booked out. Chamber will distribute yard signs, door signs, and sandwich boards in support of the event.

Sabra Jewell will check to see what coming state championships for AAA schools will be hosted at WOU.

Suzanne Duffner reported on the Economic Vitality Committee consisting of herself, Jeff Grodt and Kelly Carmichael. The Main Street grant was awarded for the Ross Theater project. The empty portion of the Odd Fellow Building has been rented to Prisms Art Gallery.

Ellen Osborne said she wants to begin a “privately owned public spaces” block party program. More to come.

Chamber events:

- Wednesday, June 8, Greeters at Country Financial, 8:30 AM
- Thursday, June 16, ribbon cutting, 8:30 AM, Grocery Outlet
- Thursday, June 16, Thirsty Thursday at Territory, 5:30 PM
- Monday, June 20, Women in Business at MaMere’s Event Space
- Friday, July 1st, Brew’s Anniversary Ribbon Cutting, 5:30 PM
- The Chamber gift shop is up and running.

Sabra Jewell discussed the WOU Athletic Auction happening this Saturday, plus the open online auction and coming live auction

Roxanne Beltz said the Peacock Festival is less than 1 year away. It’s set for Saturday, May 20, 2023, in Main Street Park. She’s looking for volunteers. The core of the first official festival will be food, art, music and a fun run.

Phyllis Bolman reported it’s an election year. Packets to run for City Council are available today and due back by August 23.

The application to the 4th of July Community Art Show is available on line and at Monmouth Library. This show is for all ages, any level.

The president adjourned the meeting at 9:20 AM.