

Monmouth Business Association
Meeting Minutes
7/6/22

Location: Community Room at the Monmouth Public Library

Attendees: Miriam Haugen, Jeff Rose, Sabra Jewell, Nicki Marazzani, Kelly Carmichael, Bill Foster, Mike Irons, Jeff Saunders, John Bracken, Jeff Glodt, Suzanne Dufner, Ellen Osborne, Lacey Johnson, Emily Bradley.

Meeting started at: 8:05 am

MBA President Miriam Haugen welcomed new and first time businesses in attendance.

Julie Jeanseau of The Red Poppy Studio & Gallery, introduced her new business located next to Crush on Warren St. Julie works w/Ash Creek Arts, and is an art teacher, and oil painter. She will be showcasing friends' art at her studio and is active on Instagram.

Since two (2) members of the MBA executive committee need to be present to approve the minutes, the MBA will approve the minutes and financial statement at the next meeting.

Suzanne Dufner, City of Monmouth, gave an overview of a new Technical Assistance Program that will be rolling out later this summer to help businesses impacted by COVID. The objective of the program is to provide one-on-one technical assistance to Monmouth businesses to help them with a particular need (e.g. marketing, branding, logo, website, finances, etc.). The City is funding the program with ARPA funds and currently has a request for proposals open for a consultant to oversee the program.

This week WOU will be holding orientations for incoming students. Businesses are encouraged to show their WOU spirit to welcome the new students to town. This year, Polk Community e-Gift Cards will be given to out-of-state students. It's not too late for businesses to sign up to accept the gift cards. Interested businesses can sign up at shoppolk.com or contact Emily Bradley for more info. The Polk Tourism Alliance is currently running a promotion where customers purchasing a \$25 gift card can get a free \$5 bonus card, or if they buy a \$50 gift card, they can get a \$15 bonus card. Bonus cards must be spent by October 31, 2022.

Music in Park starts tonight. Attendees should tag MBA ([mbamonmouth](https://www.facebook.com/mbamonmouth)), ([monmouthmusicinthepark](https://www.facebook.com/monmouthmusicinthepark)). There are 36 sponsors (3 new sponsors) this year. Businesses were encouraged to provide raffle prize give-aways to Bill Foster. Concerts start at 6:30 pm and end around 8:30pm.

Planning is in the works for the Welcome Celebration for new WOU students on September 20th. Fee for booth will be \$40. WOU is helping coordinate the event with the MBA. Committee is planning to hold the event in Main Street Park again to welcome students into town.

History and Mystery event happening on Sept 30. Marilyn Morton is the event organizer for more info or to volunteer.

Bike MS is happening on Aug 6th, the event is looking for more local volunteers.

Sabra Jewell gave a report on behalf of the Outreach Committee. The Committee is working on the development of a membership fee to help support events and MBA activities. They are thinking of a \$75 annual membership fee. MBA will strengthen communications and ask businesses what's the best way to reach them. Additional membership services include, enhanced on-boarding, welcoming new businesses, so that it's a quality, streamlined and consistent experience. The Committee meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at Grain Station. Eventually there will be a proposal to bring to MBA, targeting the first of the year for businesses to sign up.

Chamber Announcements and Upcoming Events –

Ironman is this weekend (July 10th); River Rd will be congested. May get some overflow from event and visitors in area.

July 13 Morning Greeters @ Hearts Compass,

July 18 Women in Business @ The Collection,

July 21st Thirsty Thursday @ Indy Commons.

Chamber membership has grown to over 230 businesses and organizations. July 15-24th World Track and Field Championships in Eugene; largest sporting event in world after Olympics, over 200,000 visitors; first time US has hosted the event; Travel Salem/Oregon did free collateral – pins, tear off maps, lawn signs for businesses to use to welcome visitors to our area. WOU is hosting several small teams.

City Announcements – Suzanne Dufner thanked everyone for all of their work to make a successful 4th of July celebration this year. Several attendees noted the great Public Works staff great PW staff in park with keeping bathrooms clean and garbage emptied.

Demolition of City Hall is tentatively scheduled for July 30th. The Monmouth Police Department has been invited to give a short presentation at an upcoming MBA meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 am.

Email Julie mw contact info