

Minutes, MBA meeting of 10/5/22, held at the Monmouth Library

Attending: Miriam Haugen, President; Bill Foster, Cascade Management; Nicki Marazzani, Chamber Director; Anne Hodney, Refinery 52; Linda Yorke, Smith Fine Arts; Annie Morton, Smith Fine Arts; Jeff Rose, Main St. Ice Cream; Ashley Terry, Minet; Mandy Kuang, Sing Fay; Elisa Teninado, Student Intern; Dan Farrington, Sunrise Medical & HD20; Thomas Borton, Farmers Insurance; Suzanne Dufner, City of Monmouth; Sabra Jewell, City of Monmouth; Kelly Carmichael, Ash Creek Auto Glass; Justin Sunada, WOU; Lacey Johnson from Curves; Emily McNulty, MaMere's Guest House ; Gwin W, PCL

Meeting was called to order by Miriam Haugen at 8:00 AM.

First time attendees were welcomed, and new local businesses were noted.

Meeting Minutes

A request was made to amend the September minutes in several locations. Emily will work to update minutes with member feedback. We will vote on them at November meeting.

Financial Statement

Financial report was presented by Kevin. Bill made motion to approve. Lacey 2nd. Motion carried.

Membership Proposal Discussion

Membership proposal fee structure was sent out with meeting reminder. The outreach committee has been working diligently to develop this proposal.

Emily made motion to approve membership fees of \$75, as presented by Outreach Committee membership proposal. Suzanne 2nd. There was discussion on the phrase "doing business in Monmouth" and trying to define what this means. Ultimately, any change to this phrase would require changes to our by-laws. Continued discussion on next steps and what exactly membership fees will cover. Motion carried.

Nominations for MBA officers will be taking place next month

Please come to November meeting with nominations for committee members. The leadership committee has discussed adding an additional position that would

focus on outreach. Kevin will be retiring next spring, so we will need a new treasurer.

Welcome Celebration for New Students

The event was a big success. 36 tables were set up. We need to make sure there is a budget presented to the MBA for approval in August next year. There will be a wrap up meeting to debrief the event with committee members.

Halloween

Downtown Halloween Spooctacular will be happening October 31st from 4-6:30pm. There will also be a pop up event along Warren St. for businesses not on main street and community organizations who would like to participate. There is a facebook event and flyer. Please help us promote and share information about the event!

A motion was made by Bill to move \$200 from our general fund into Halloween funds, as well as to approve insurance costs. Kevin 2nd. Motion carries.

Making Spirits Bright

Tree lighting is December 2nd. Monmouth Merry Market will be taking place on December 3rd. The hope is that businesses will have crafter “pop-up” in their business and businesses will offer holiday specials that weekend. Stay tuned for more information and opportunities to get involved. The Making Spirits Bright Committee will be meeting in October – date to be determined.

WOU Parent Week – November 11 and 12th

WOU is hoping businesses will get involved and hopes to create some type of passport for families to visit local businesses. A suggestion was made to keep “Paint the Town Red” paintings up from homecoming to show our WOU spirit.

University and Community Connections group – Meeting October 5th at 4pm at Rick’s.

Smith Fine Arts – Kicks off Friday! Smith Fine Arts team is trying hard to connect with businesses, Monmouth Business Association and university community. 45th year of the Smith Fine Arts Series. December 3rd will be next performance with performer - Typhoon.

Chamber announcements

- Taking Wolfie around to businesses tomorrow to get photos/video
- Morning Greeters at Indy Commons
- Thirsty Thursday at Acres of Hope Youth Ranch
- Ribbon Cutting on October 21st at Prisms Gallery (a PCL project) – they do crafts and other events like birthday parties
- Polk County Women in Business at Independence Ice Cream Parlor
- If you want to host a future Chamber event, reach out to Nicki – she is setting schedule now for 2023.

City of Monmouth announcements

- Mural on side of PCL is completed and there will be an ribbon cutting event on October 13th at 6pm
- This Saturday is the anniversary of the Columbus Day Storm – a guest author will speak about event

WOU Announcements

- Pro connect events – opportunities for businesses to connect with students
- Lots of sporting events coming up. Go cheer on the wolves! Rugby is having a beer garden and food truck this Saturday.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06am.