

The mission of the Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce is to promote Chamber members while enhancing the livability and connectedness of the community.

AGENDA : Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

Current Executive Board Members: Chair- Josiah Tonder, Vice Chair- Jeremiah Zahnow, Secretary-Treasurer- Denita Wisniewski

Board Members: Todd Ecker, Andy Otremba, Chris Amundson, Micki Czech, Amy Allen, Toby Polkinhorne

Board Members Present: Josiah, Micki, Denita, Andy, Chris, Jeremiah

Guest: Jason Brown @ Long Prairie MN 56347

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 – Monthly MEETING 03:30 PM @ HARMONY PARK???

MEETING

1-Call to Order/Roll Call 3:36 at Harmony Park

2- Approval of agenda/additions/deletions None

Motion to approve by: Jeremiah Seconded by: Chris Carried: X

3- Approval of Minutes, additions

Motion to approve by: Chris Seconded by: Jeremiah Carried: X

4- Financial Report Lu met with Phil, and they went through every line, but the items were entered twice. Lu and Phil and sit down going forward twice a month to go through the transactions to verify they are correct. Phil corrected the transactions that were doubled-up. Our profit for August is in a positive. All of the Malina has been paid. Total of \$96,000 including both checking accounts and CD's.

Motion to approve by: Micki Seconded by: Denita Carried: X

5- Presentations: Jason Brown – LP Leader

How do we grow as a community, working together and not against each other. Jason would like to see a greater partnership between the Chamber and the Leader. Possible ideas: Column, sit down with Lu to see what they can come up with.

6- Director's Report- Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members

Integrity Auto Glass out of Little Falls. They just joined

7- Old Business

Chamber/Tourism Event reports & updates:

Networking events

- September - tomorrow- Childcare Roundtable @ MN National Bank – 11:30 – 1pm

About 32 people are coming. Wide range of people are coming

- October – LPEDA & TCDC - Business Appreciation – Manufacturers' Breakfast – Central Bi @ LP Country Club 7-8am

October 24th - more info to come.

Prairie Days dates – June 7th (week of June 1st) & financial corrections

Concert in the Park –Last concert August 8 – Thanks Chris for stepping up

Final report will be done in next month.

Public Forums: School Board, City & County – tonight & October 9th

School Board tonight - Commissioners & City Council on October 9th - Jeremiah and Andy may help.

Halloween Trick or Treat – on Thursday October 31st

Baptist church is not doing Trunk or Treat this year.

Bright Light festivities

Arts & Craft show - #s, new things – t-shirts & concessions

T-shirts are coming, Jill Hanson from the FACS program will be doing the concessions.
Tourism update: Video banner in the process – web banner link: <https://www.longprairie.net/> -
Tourism video in the process
Chris Amundsen taking the reigns.

Lu will do the final report for Concert in the Park for the grant we received for this year.
Danniela Chavez's position - ??

We need a job description, post the job description, and Danniela can apply. Peg Churchwell will be retiring. Discussion of what the future of this position looks like. Jeremiah made a motion to extend her contract until the end of November, Andy second - Motion carried
By-laws – click link: <https://www.longprairie.org/about-us/> - download from the page
*suggestions from Chamber members – see email responses below

8- New Business

WAVE Saludos Welcome Center – non-profit status

9- Adjourn Our Core Values :

- ❖ Promoting and connecting Chamber Members
- ❖ Information and Resource Hub
- ❖ Community enhancement

Hello Chamber members,

I have a quick question. The Chamber would like to include Email voting in their bylaws. Do any of you have this kind of voting clause in your bylaws and if you do could you please send that information to the Chamber via email? Thanks.

Addition to By-laws - email voting

AJ Peters:

I might consider something like survey monkey rather than email. If using email, you need to set up an imap mail system and have a separate folder for each voting item.

Todd Wadena Electric Coop

We can vote my mail, in person or electronic means. I've attached the link to our bylaws. I'm not at the office for the rest of the week. We do Our "electronic" voting online (specific website).

<https://toddwadena.coop/about/articles-bylaws/>

CentraCare

(d) As an alternative to a formal meeting, the voting members of the Medical Staff or a committee may be presented with a question by mail, facsimile, e-mail, hand-delivery, or telephone, and their votes returned to the chairperson by the method designated in the notice. A quorum for purposes of these votes will be the number of responses returned to the chairperson by the date indicated, except for the quorum requirements noted in (a) above. The question raised will be determined in the affirmative if a majority of the responses returned has so indicated.

All this and more

Personally, I don't believe that email voting would be safe but that is my opinion. Email can be sent by anyone. As a matter of fact if you had an order for protection from the state they would not even enforce it if someone sent an email to you because there's no proof of who wrote the email.

LP Country Club ...response coming.

Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

2024 Strategic Goals

1. Increase Chamber Membership
 - a. Secure **10** new members in either Long Prairie or the surrounding area.
 - b. Show non-members the value of membership by introducing them to the Chamber Website, Facebook page and Membership Benefits flyer.
2. Retain Current Membership –
 - a. Make members feel valued by visiting and calling. Focus on connecting with at least 5 dormant members each month to check-in and remind them of the available membership benefits.
On going
 - b. Promote and share business events and content via the chamber website, Facebook, GMLP Breakfasts, radio, emails etc.
On going
3. Brand the LPACC as the information Hub of Long Prairie
 - a. Send out **Bi-weekly** emails utilizing direct links for advertisements and events.
On going
 - b. Update the chamber website monthly to ensure it is an efficient and effective way to connect the community with resources
On going
4. Organize Community Development Opportunities
 - a. Facilitate a minimum of 3 classes/workshops per year on various topics. Events can be either in person or virtual.
5. Budget
 - a. Establish a budget committee to meet quarterly to discuss financials.
 - b. Ensure community events are budgeted in the positive.

