



“Working together to make Sisseton better.”

12:00pm - Thursday, February 9th, 2023 Minutes

Members Present: Sherri Skjonsberg, Connie Wellnitz, Jennie Lynn Evenson

Members Absent: Tracey Sing

Others Present: Nicholas Blaske, Beverly Noyes-Hanson

Reading & Approval of the Minutes:

Reading & Approval of the Financial Report:

Follow-Up Items: Chamber Invitations - Blaske was advised to just stop at new businesses to alleviate the extra time it takes to stop at all businesses

Reimbursements:

Agenda Items:

SD Dept. of Tourism Conference: Blaske went to the SD Dept of Tourism Conference in Pierre. He explained the various things he learned and can help implement in the Sisseton area. He also met the new Chamber director from Milbank and agreed to help her out when he can.

Voting New Terms: Blaske was advised to reach out to a select few people to see if they would be interested in being a board member. Specifically: Bethany Johnson, Penny Brooks, Katy Heineke.

2023 List of Events: Our event insurance company needed a list of events that the Chamber will be hosting this year. They should include Celebrate Sisseton / Sisseton Arts Fest / Flea Market, Burger Throwdown, Chili Cookoff, and possibly a Health & Wellness Expo. The Sisseton Events Committee will meet soon to discuss the events further. It was brought up to ask the Firemen to possibly serve beer at the Chili Cookoff. The Wellness Expo could utilize National Small Business Month (October) and ask national relief charities for support.

BetterCluture: David Orrick of said company met via Zoom with Blaske to discuss a partnership with the Chamber. Their offered services are FREE to us. The Board felt it was an idea to pursue.

This Year's Budget & Annual Meeting: Blaske will meet with the finance committee (Tracey) as soon as possible to prepare for said items.

Chamber Board Off-Site Meeting: The board agreed to meet on March 25th at Soiree 417 from 10am - 2pm for a team building workshop. Blaske will prepare exercises from "The 5 Dysfunctions of a Team," as well as from a workshop he went through the SDSU Extension.

2023 Job Fair: Blaske is working with the Sd Dept. of Labor & SWO HR Dept to host another job fair for the businesses of the area. It will be April 11th at the Thollhaug Middle School.

Meeting Time & Day: It was discussed that we should move our meeting time and day to the 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:15pm to allow a better chance to get everyone to attend.

2023 Winter Show: It was discussed that unfortunately it is too much effort for not enough reward. Milbank has cancelled theirs. It was brought up that we could take a few of the things people liked and add them to our other events. Have a pie auction at the Chili Cookoff or Celebrate Sisseton.

Business After Hours: Blaske brought up the idea that was given to him from Katy Heineke. It was well received but it was suggested to have set guidelines as to what the Chamber will be in charge of to have set expectations. Beverly said she will look at what was done in the past.

Sisseton Mobile App: Blaske has met with 3 companies that create custom phone apps for cities, chambers, tourism, etc. Cory Kranhold was a contact for Blaske to see what the school has done. It was well received, we need to look into it further and meet with other organizations from the community.

Community Garden: Blaske met with Ni'sto Inc., Roberts Conservation District & 4-H to feasibly start a community garden in Sisseton. Updates will be given as it progresses.

Veteran Transit Rides: Blaske received a call from Roberts County Veterans Serve Officer Christopher Hicks in hopes to raise funds for trust rides for veterans. The board would like to help out in some way like design flyers or connect with businesses for fundraising.

Adjournment: Connie moved, Sherri 2nd, MC

Next Meeting: March 21