

April 2, 2025

Chamber general meeting minutes

Meeting was called to order by President Alexis O'Hair at 12:11. Other members present include; Natasha Eagan, Marla Houtz, Liz Watson, April Kerbo, Toni Bressler, Becky Ellis, Forrest Cornwell, Amanda Aranda, Sherri Butler, Mindy Dougherty, Tim Hardy, Lexi Gibson, Rachel Stiver, Terrel Giddens, Kylee Harrison, Ed Anderson, Jennifer Pearlstein, Dr. Esparza. Students in attendance were Holly Hollingsworth, Camrie Henry, and Presley Aranda.

Toni Bressler made motion to approve minutes from March general meeting; Marla seconded.

Natasha gave treasurer's report.

School reports: Holly Hollingsworth is Senior StuCo president. She announced MAD Day 4/23 and told the group about clean up projects they have planned. Presley Aranda is a sophomore and winner of local YEC challenge. She will be competing in State challenge in Manhattan. She also updates the group on Wildcat Creations store. Camrie Henry is the Junior class president and gives an update on Prom. If you have anything to donate to Prom closet please do.

Old business:

- Membership is at 99 members.
- BKRT is May 2nd & 3rd so update your google listings, follow along on social media for schedule. We will have signs to advertise stops. Please offer specials and update your hours.
- Banquet tickets: Chamber sold 180 and give away 100 tickets.
- Clean up days: EHS MAD Day 4/23, highway clean up 4/21, Earth Day 4/22. Dreamfirst is hosting SHRED week.
- Pitch your Porch will be in May. You must sign up online, we will send out details.
- Bunny Hop – please give Natasha a fun fact about your business. She will create a QR code for your stop. Customers must find QR code and Chamber is giving away a prize.

New business:

- Business spotlight – please give Chamber any information you'd like to highlight about your business.
- Chamber is selling 206 chair covers \$200 OBO. We will rent out any décor we have for other events in the community.

Business reports:

- April Kerbo – Big C's is hosting trivia night 4/8 and wants to open Saturday evenings starting 5/3.
- Toni – Library is having an Easter egg hunt in Mitchell Family park. Story time is going well. Summer reading starts first Tuesday in June.
- Becky Ellis – The museum has new dust bowl exhibit and will open on April 14th. April 16th is "Black Sunday". The museum will also host annual Easter egg hunt, they will take volunteers. Thane Baker will be here May 3rd for another book signing.

- Forrest – Church of God is hosting youth sports camp June 21-27, registration starts Easter.
- Amanda Aranda – Cornerstone PT thanks the Chamber and it's members for Business of the Year award. Kelsey Loftis goodbye reception 2:30-5pm. They ended swing bed contract with Morton County Health Systems. They need more therapist. Pool has lift working. She'll start water aerobics class. She introduces a PTA student here doing rotations.
- Sherri – Elkhart senior center is hosting Senior expo in May and activities continue as usual.
- Mindy – Lions Club annual Shoot for Site tournament is May 10, it's a 2 person scramble. Lions club will also be cooking trial ride breakfast. State Farm is going through a software change. Her bees are doing well, she had 3 new queens and is planting garden.
- Marla on behalf of Sew Loved quilt shop – Kansas/Nebraska shop hop, and airing of the quilts, gibe Laura your address. All quilts can be aired.
- Marla – Health Department gives Measles update. You can get information at the Health Department.
- Tim Hardy – City of Elkhart is hiring labor, summer help and lifeguards. They have applied for grant for sidewalks. City is doing routine cleaning/inspection of big water tower. City clean up will be the week of Earth day. 3 houses have been demoed and have plans for 2 more. Potentially tearing down Girl Scout hut and building pickleball court.
- Lexi Gibson – The Fair is looking for vendors, if you're interested contact Shalee Higgins.
- Rachel – TBK bank is offering prize for referrals. Scholarship program closes April 14th.
- Kylee – TCEC is hosting Passport to the Panhandle promotion. Morton County Museum is on the schedule for June. If you visit you can enter to win a prize.
- Terrel Giddens – He's thankful for Man of the Year award. He says the church is hosting sports camp as well. They are having Jason Gray concert for gospel night at the fair following food auction. Concert will take place in rodeo arena.
- Ed Anderson – AirBnb is booked for BKRT, everything is going well. Commissioners have decided to waive use fee for non-profits to use Civic Center building. Chamber board expresses thank you for helping with Civic Center fee during banquet.
- Jennifer & Dr. Esparza – Hospital has new patient call system, they like it very much. Getting new generator through grant. Open rooms at assisted living. Esi Houtz awarded ACP award for patient care. Clinic is taking patients, can get same day appointment.

Toni made motion to adjourn; Natasha seconded, meeting adjourned 1pm