

Standish Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes
January 31, 2017

1. Call to Order

The monthly meeting of the Chamber of Commerce convened at City Hall in Standish on January 31, 2017 at 12:05 p.m. Board Members in attendance: Steve Kolaja, Marv Ittner, Tim Dixon, Amanda Pomaville, Tara Binder and Shayna Castle.

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Tim Dixon and seconded by Marv Ittner to approve minutes for November 29, 2016. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Steve Kolaja and seconded by Tara Binder to approve the Treasurer's Report for November 28, 2016-January 30, 2017. Motion carried.

4. Public Business

- A. Kim Karpinski was attending on behalf of the Arenac County Fair. There are 9 members on the fair board. Arenac County owns the fair grounds on a 100 year lease. She has requested the Chamber to work with them as far as suggestions on how to make the fair better. They had reached out to the Fair Board Convention in Grand Rapids for ideas as well. The Arenac County Fair is not linked with 4H, and they are ineligible for grants. They would like the fair grounds to be able to be used for corporate picnics, etc. Currently they have a queen's pageant, live auction, concert, mud bog, etc. There is a possibility of the grounds moving to Omer-which would be costly to break new ground. Tim recommended everyone to attend the Fair Board Meeting @ 5:30 pm at the court house on the last Tuesday of the month.

- B. Brenda Matt from The Depot has a Standish-opoly game to share. The Depot will have a display of historic items from the Standish area available for viewing soon. She also spoke of the Iron Bell Trail (Detroit Area) that is a walking/biking trail that goes up to the UP. It also connects with Arenac County from Omer to AuGres. They use state funding and the EDC states they will match a grant of \$25,000 to pay for the design. Could take 1-2 years. This is for non-motorized purposes only. The Depot now has a non-profit group, a 501C-3, called 'Friends of Arenac Heritage Route Authority'.

- C. E. Chamber logo wear- Tara Binder had mentioned the Chamber getting logoed shirts and name tags for when we are out in the community volunteering on behalf of the chamber. Tara will be looking into pricing to bring to February's meeting.

5. Old Business

- A. Update on Membership Dues- Tara Binder will type up a new spreadsheet.53 businesses have paid their dues thus far.

- B. Directors and Officers Liability Insurance Renewal- D & L Policy comes up at the end of February. \$1 million in coverage for the board. Was \$900/year, and is now \$450/year for 2017.

- C. Steve holds the Chamber Member plaques at his office if needed. MDOT contacted the Chamber for a supply of brochures to distribute at various MI rest stop location. Steve will be bringing brochures to the February meeting, new ones are needed and updates are needed on them. Tim will provide a new brochure proof for Chamber Board to review at the February Meeting.

- D. Chamber supplies- Tara will be buying a ream of paper and getting reimbursed, she will also buy labels for the non-windowed envelopes the Chamber has an abundance of.
- E. By-Laws Review- The Standish By-Laws are outdated. Steve will be gathering information from another chamber on how their By-Laws are structured.

6. New Business

- A. 2017 Board Members- The new board is as follows: Tim Dixon, President; Tara Binder, Vice President; Marvin Ittner, Treasurer; Amanda Pomaville, Secretary; Steve Kolaja, Trustee; Shayna Castle, Trustee; and Carrie Nelson, Trustee.
- B. Website- The Chamber's website was hacked by Ukraine. We will be restoring the site with Joomla for the time being. The Chamber will be looking into a possible local IT person (Karl Sapp from Standish Milling was suggested) to build us a new website. The motion for the restoration at this point was made by Tara Binder and seconded by Amanda Pomaville. Motion carried.
- C. Transferring Chamber Telephone Calls and Emails- Currently Steve Kolaja is receiving all phone calls and e-mails for the Chamber, and he is not real familiar with the Standish area (as far as directions, etc. go). Tim Dixon has offered to take over the phone calls (via a Chamber phone provided by Verizon) and e-mails. There was an offer to possibly have these transferred to The Depot.
- D. Staples Advantage- Marv brought this up as it was something that was received in the mail. Possibly something Tim will look into as a perk to offer to Chamber Members.
- E. Tim Dixon had mentioned that he would like the Chamber to have a group meeting with the Standish DDA and the Fair Board. This would bring up ideas of things we could all work on and have a goal as a group.
- F. Tim discussed the Pops in the Past Car Show. He asked the Chamber for a \$500 sponsorship, which was \$400 in 2016. A motion was made by Tara Binder and seconded by Amanda Pomaville. Motion carried. The new sponsorships are \$100, \$300, \$500, and \$1000 (these would be corporate sponsors such as GM, Chrysler, Ford and Mattel). The car show is scheduled for June 17, 2017.

7. Announcements

- A: Next Executive Board Meeting: TBA as Chamber Office. All members are welcome to attend.
- B: The next public meeting will be at City Hall on February 28, 2017 at noon.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.