

**BRILLION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD MINUTES**

March 18th, 2015 **Brillion Nature Center – Hunan’s Chinese**

12:00 PM

1) CALL TO ORDER:

Jason Ruebl called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM.

ROLL CALL: Present were Jason Ruebl, Bill Veit, Todd Brehmer, Jennifer Kolberg, Doug Neils, Mark Vechart, Gary Kabat & Vineta Cuane-Meyer. Also present were and Michelle Ruebl & Cheryl Welch-nonvoting. Absent was Wendy Allen & Nick Madison.

2) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion – Mark Vechart made Motion to Approve Agenda. Seconded by Jennifer Kolberg. Call vote taken. Motion carried. Agenda Approved.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES –February 18th, 2015 Chamber Board Meeting.

Motion –Mark Vechart asked for some corrections to the minutes. Michelle Ruebl noted corrections. Jennifer Kolberg made motion of approval of Minutes. Seconded by Doug Neils. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

4) PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Jason Ruebl

All reports today are included in the agenda, no extra report this month.

5) SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT:

Michelle Ruebl presented the final February & March Secretary and Treasurer Financial Report.

Motion –Bill Veit made a motion to approve the final February and March Secretary & Financial Reports. Seconded by Doug Neils. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

9) City & Room Tax Updates - Cheryl Welch

A. Planning Meeting Update Cheryl Welch stated she has to leave for other meetings this day so she has a quick update. She is trying to schedule the first meeting for the committee for the room tax. Likely will be in Aril. Only 3 chamber members came to the joint city meeting. Glenn Braun, Sara Pieloff & Tom Kees. She noted that no one from the executive board of the Chamber came to the meeting. The meeting entailed brainstorming thoughts on the vision of Brillion in the future. Main topics were residential, commercial, storm & groundwater & land use, and industrial growth. A recap of the meeting was handed out to the Board. Cheryl would like to see 6 to 7 Chamber members present in the future. Citizens will also be invited to assist. Next meeting is April 6th at the Brillion Community Center. Notes from these meetings as well as historical information will be on the city website under planning. Jason Ruebl asked about Mondays and if that will be the day of all of the meetings. He would join, but he is part of the Brillion Fire Department and must attend those. Michelle Ruebl mentioned she had members state they could not attend due to other meetings in the area as well such as Brillion PTO meeting, Brillion Nature Center Board and the Brillion Fire Department all on this same night. Cheryl stated she is inviting people to add feedback about these meetings even if they can’t attend the meetings. There is quite a bit of human resource capital around the city and she’d like to utilize their talents and resources to help, so the city isn’t spending funds on large conglomerates. City could then spend funds

on consultants instead. Jason Ruebl asked Cheryl to send a reminder email out as well. Cheryl excused herself from remainder of meeting due to other commitments.

6) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Business After Five:** Business After Five for Join Me Realty is set up for April 16th. Michelle Ruebl stated everything is set and office will be completed just in time. She is excited to host one and all of her agents plan to be in attendance. It is not joint with Bullseye, however they do plan to be open during in case anyone would like tours of the whole first floor of the building. Waiting on dates from both the Brillion Nature Center and Village Hearthstone. Jennifer Kolberg stated they will work on a date once the Brillion Nature Centers Banquet is over.
- B. Beer, Wine & Cheese** Event was successful. There were 57 online tickets. All of the vendors have been paid. Some have donated their payments back to the event. It seems to run very efficiently. Numbers are not done yet due to computer being updated. Will have final numbers for the next month's meeting. The Board discussed whether the event should be looking to charge for vendors rather than pay Vendors. Michelle Ruebl mentioned that the payment is for their products and that the majority are bringing in much more than what is being paid for. This seems to be a part of the success. Some of the local companies may not be able to participate if they were not being reimbursed for part of their products. This may be something to review in the future.

7) NEW BUISNESS:

- A. Next Meeting: April 15th – Brillion Middle School or the Brillion Community Center – Tadych's EconFoods** Michelle will firm up location.
- B. Brillion Optimist Parade.** –Michelle Ruebl asked if the boxboard would like to do anything in addition to the donation this year. Gary Kabat stated than many of the members already are putting their own floats in the parade so it would be redundant for the Chamber to do one. The support had not been there in the past. This is a budget item already to support the parade.
- C. Jaycees Brillionfest** – Mark Vechart stated we should make sure Businesses are aware how they can assist. Jason Ruebl talked about how they are notified already by the Jaycees. Vineta Caune-Meyer mentioned they do send letters out to all of the Businesses. Todd Brehmer asked how we differentiate and decide who to give to and whom to not. Mark Vechart state we may need to do a new budget item on a yearly basis for this. Doug Neils asked Mark Vechart was his past experience was. Mark stated that when things like these aren't in the budget we can't give to them. Jennifer Kolberg asked what the Jaycees use the money for. Vineta Caune-Meyer said they use it towards the community. Jennifer feels this is distinctively different than just raising funds for a project. It is for the betterment of the community which we would endorse. Doug Neils said we should establish guidelines for donations. Todd Brehmer said it really should be to betterment of the community. Jason Ruebl stated we will always need Board approval anyway for such requests. Jennifer stated that we should make the donations only if aligned with the Chamber Motto. Mark Vechart talked about splitting the budget amount currently set for the Optimist with the Jaycees to be fair.

Motion: Bill Veit made a motion to equally split the \$300 budgeted amount between the Brillion Area Jaycees and the Brillion Optimist Parade. Todd Brehmer added that the guidelines should be added to the next month's meeting. Mark Vechart seconded the motion. Call vote taken.

Motion carried.

D. Brochure. – Tabled to next month

E. Annual Golf Outing: Michelle Ruebl stated that committee members will be needed for this year. Michelle will email the membership to see who has interest. Last year was a new committee with some consulting with the prior committee. The hope is more people will step forward. Much of the planning did end up with Michelle Ruebl, however it was also the first year of the new committee. It ran fairly smooth. Michelle thought this a good time to bring up an email that came in asking the Chamber to handle a complaint on a businesses in town. The business is not a member. Mark Vechart stated it would be a great opportunity to talk to them about the Chamber and what we have to offer while also making them aware of an upset customer. Jason Ruebl will try to follow up.

8) OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Membership Renewals** – All the checks received are entered. 2nd mailings need to go out yet.
- B. Computer Update :** Computer is up and running. All of the required software has been downloaded on it. Michelle is moving items over from old laptop to new one gradually. This way any unnecessary files can be evaluated and deleted.
- C. Chamber Bucks locations:** Jason Ruebl stated he did not get a chance to discuss with Brad Grant or Tony Reese yet. He will do that prior to April's meeting.
- D. City Council Meeting:** Jaosn Ruebl stated he did attend the meeting discussed last month. Mike Buboltz, Beth Wenzel, Kim Simmons, Tamara Hillmann and a few others were in attendance. Mike Buboltz spoke. He was very passionate. The meeting did get heated at one point, but the council took it well. They need to watch what they say. Mark Vechart mentioned that there was a nice follow up in the paper after the meeting. It emphasized that we need to concentrate on the whole city. Jason Ruebl noted that while many businesses have moved out to Highway 10, new ones also have moved in. Change of this sort is expected to happen. Bill Veit stated that Cheryl Welch shared with the Optimist that the meeting brings new light and support from the community.

10) School District Update – None –

ADJOURNMENT: Motion Gary Kabat moved to adjourn. Seconded by Doug Neils. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:13pm

Respectfully Submitted

Michelle Ruebl, Secretary/Treasurer – Brillion Chamber of Commerce