

**BRILLION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD MINUTES**

August 20th, 2014

Rudy's –Brillion

12:00 PM

1) CALL TO ORDER:

Tammy Koehler called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM. Tammy Koehler requested to move #10 up in order to allow Lori Gosz to leave for other meetings.

ROLL CALL: Present were Tammy Koehler, Bill Veit, Jason Ruebl, Todd Brehmer, Doug Niels, & Mark Vechart. Also present were and Michelle Ruebl (non-voting) & Guest Lori Gosz. Absent were Nick Madison (non-voting), Jennifer (Louis) Kolberg, Jason Levash, and Gary Kabat

2) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion – Bill Veit made Motion to Approve Agenda. Seconded by Todd Brehmer. Call vote taken. Motion carried. Agenda Approved.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES –May 21st, 2014 Chamber Board Meeting.

Motion –Doug Neils made motion to approve Minutes. Seconded by Bill Veit. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

4) PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Tammy Koehler made report part of the agenda.

5) SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT:

Michelle Ruebl presented the May, June & July 2014 Secretary and Treasurer Financial Report.

Motion –Doug Neils made a motion to approve/accept the May Secretary and Financial Reports. Seconded by Mark Vechart. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion –Jason Ruebl made a motion to approve/accept the June Secretary and Financial Reports. Seconded by Doug Niels. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion –Mark Vechart made a motion to approve/accept the July Secretary and Financial Reports. Seconded by Jason Ruebl. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

6) New Membership Approvals

New members were introduced: Wolfinger Custom Homes –Kaukauna (from the associate membership upgrades). Also New: Bakkheia Wine & Spirits & Joey D's Embroidery & Screen Printing.

Motion –Doug Neils made a motion to approve/accept the New Members . Seconded by Bill Veit. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously

10) City Update–Lori Gosz

Lori Gosz stated that the Community Development is without a director right now. RDA Event coming up. Fall Fest is in association with Pumpkin Walk at the Brillion Nature Center. Mom's Place has been sold to a new business and we should see this in a couple of months. Kreative Knots & Joey D's are new businesses in town. Well system should be done around October. Community Development position is part time yet with approximately 20-30 hours/week. Mayor encourages full-time. Economic Development Corporation may be an option. It would be

funded by 3 different levels. Both New Holstein and Amery do this. The businesses contribute to this and there is a possibility with the room tax for funding. Information of other areas was passed around that have similar set ups. One example is <http://amerywisconsin.org/?112620> . Room tax is established. Hotel has applied. First set of monies should be in by October. The Committee is not established yet. Lori encourages Chamber to have a seat on the board. Park and Rec is looking at uniform signs in all of the parks. City thanks the Chamber for all of their contributions towards signs and benches.

7) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Business After Five: Bakkhei and Calumet County Bank-Sherwood Office have inquired.

B. Golf Outing Update: Net dollars were comparable with last year. Doug Neils mentioned that the net dollars may be better as the economy stabilizes and the course gets improved. He feels it will continue to grow each year.

C. Retail Committee: Tammy Koehler spoke with Kim Simmons who is organizing the retail committee. First meeting was at Bakkheia's. The meeting included Clark Curtis with Essential Technologies, Kim Simmons with Bullseye Screen Printing, Mike Buboltz with Hardware Plus, & Cully Schroth with Schroth's Floral & Gifts. They will meet again in September. Agenda time 8B Budget is broken down. Tammy Koehler would like to let the committee decide how to use the funds so as to benefit retail companies rather than restricting the funds just these items. Mark Vechart agrees and would like to give the retail committee some freedom to choose where to spend the funds.

Motion: Mark Vechart made a motion to allow retail committee to have flexibility of reallocating the funds. Todd Brehmer asked about the budget for Beer Wine Cheese and if we restrict them. Michelle Ruebl indicated that the budget is open to the committee, however as a fundraiser the profit is not. They can recommend but the Board reserves the right to vote on the items. The retail trade committee would then have an expense budget only. Bill Veit seconded the motion. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

8) NEW BUSINESS:

A. Next Meeting Date: September 24th Several board members stated they can not attend the 3rd Wed in September due to other commitment. Meeting set for the 4th Wednesday.

B. Retail Trade Committee- New committee started. See 7C for details.

C. PIE Rewards – Michelle Ruebl will message Nick Madison for an update.

D. Homecoming Windows -Michelle Ruebl will send out an email looking for a committee

E. Membership Update/Drive – Michelle Ruebl asked the board if they would like to run a drive to help with membership Doug Neils asked if we need to invite those who have not renewed to join us. Todd Brehmer asked who would qualify. Doug Neils recommended setting up a scrip. Tammy Koehler asked if we want to meet or do the criteria over email. Meeting

would be specific time but email is more flexible. Script is recommended with each taking 10 names and having 10 days to call.

F. Commercial Buildings – For Sale/For Rent: Michelle Ruebl stated she periodically is getting asked to advertise buildings for lease or sale to the membership. Tammy Koehler stated that in the past it was discussed that we are a Chamber and not Realtors. Topic tabled until past minutes can be found to figure out why we removed the option to post commercial buildings.

G. Banquet – Committee/Speaker : Date of Banquet is October 9th. A committee will be needed –easier when working together. Discussion followed through on various speakers.

H. New Manager – Hotel : Email from Christina Kornetzke was asking if the new hotel manager could be involved in the Chamber. An invite for fall banquet is an option.

I. Committee – Bylaws (absent board members/dues timeline): Bill Veit, Tammy Koehler & Todd Brehmer volunteered to review and send to the board for additional comments on the changes needed.

10) OLD BUSINESS:

A. Website: Done: Michelle Ruebl stated website is done and is working very well. Updates are easy to do and can be done by the Chamber now. Michelle Ruebl presented that there would be a huge benefit to have Paypal set up within the website for any or all areas that take payments. She has an invoice from The IT Dept for \$300 to create this. Todd Brehmer asked why not do direct debit/credit. Tammy Koehler mentioned that would be an added cost and Paypal was researched in the past to meet the Chamber’s needs. Bill **Veit made a motion** to allow for the extra work to be completed for the \$300. Jason Ruebl seconded the motion. Roll Call taken. Majority approved. Tammy Koehler abstained from voting.

B. Farmer Market Sponsorship Update:

Proof of entity still has not been supplied. Board discussion followed. Sponsorship will be allowed if we are approached with the proof previously requested. Tabled until end of season.

C. Chamber Bucks : No update at this time

11) SCHOOL DISTRICT UPDATE – none

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion Todd Brehmer moved to adjourn. Seconded by Bill Veit. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:22pm

Respectfully Submitted

Michelle Ruebl, Secretary/Treasurer – Brillion Chamber of Commerce