

**BRILLION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
BOARD MINUTES**

**August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Hopscotch**

**12:00 PM**

**1) CALL TO ORDER:**

Jason Ruebl called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM.

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

**10) School District Update – Nick Madison** – At October’s banquet we will have Teacher Recognition. Selection is in process. Partners in Education is a way of getting businesses involved in schools and schools in business. Junior Achievement also helps as well as Partners in Education. School update: We are in 140 years of rubble. Looking like completion is expected in Mid-October depending on what they find. Pete Kittel is lined up to speak at the Chamber Banquet. Fundraising is in progress for the elementary STEM center. Will be an amazing facility, cutting edge. It will set Brillion apart from other schools. Great opportunity for students. Go to the school website to see the virtual tour.

**2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Motion** –Jennifer Kolberg made a motion to approve the Agenda. Seconded by Doug Neils. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously

**3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Michelle Ruebl presented April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 minutes. No meeting for May, June or July.

**Motion** –Doug Neils made a motion to approve the Minutes as read. Seconded by Tim Hanson. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously

**4) PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Jason Ruebl**

We will have 3 First Dollars to present coming up. If anyone knows of any new businesses in the area, contact Jason to make sure we have them on the list. .

**5) SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT:**

Michelle Ruebl presented May, June, July & August’s Secretary and Treasurer Financial Report. She explained the additional fees incurred with The IT Department. When the Wordpress support system updates, the website loses parts of its functionality. The IT Department recommended a permanent change to the front page, which incurred labor time. Within this context the question was posed to Tammy regarding the upcoming renewal with Dotster. A miscommunication occurred and the renewal had a cost of an additional \$22.50 for the IT Department to use their credit card. This was not explained ahead of time. Michelle offered that she can charge her personal card and have the Chamber reimburse in the future so the renewal fee is not so significant. Jennifer Kolberg told Michelle to check with Calumet County Bank on getting a debit/check card for the Chamber for future billings.

**Motion** –Doug Neils made a motion to approve the Secretary & Financial Reports. Seconded by Jennifer Kolberg. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously

**6) COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. Business After Five:**

a. -Brillion Nature Center –Flyer is coming and emails will be sent out

**B. Annual Golf Outing:** Golf Outing went well. A profit of \$5618.35 so far. All expenses should be paid out by now. We have two vendors that paid partially or did not pay yet amounting to \$150. Michelle will send out a reminder bill to these two. Profit was very close to last year.

**7) NEW BUISNESS:**

**A. Next Meeting:** September 17<sup>th</sup>. Michelle Ruebl will be gone to a Realtor convention and can not attend this date. With discussion, it was determined to hold meeting on September 24<sup>th</sup> at the Brillion Middle School. Jason Ruebl also brought up that help with a quorum's should be discussed. Are Wednesday's at noon the best time for the Board as a whole? As discussion ensued it was determined to leave meetings as is due to lunch hours being the best time. Jason Ruebls did talk with PPI about possible permanent board members. There seems to be some hesitancy yet we will continue to have these discussions.

**B. New Member:** Maries Professional Grooming

-Nick Madison had to excuse from meeting at 12:52pm

**C. Teacher Retirement Recognition Procedure** – Jennifer Kolberg made a motion to approve the Policy and Procedure as created. Seconded by Doug Neils. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously

**D. Guidelines for contribution requests to Organizations** – Doug Neils made a motion to approve the Policy and Procedure as created. Seconded by Tim Hanson. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**E. Brochure:** Tabled

**F. Annual Chamber Banquet** – We are booked at Cobblestone Creek. Peter Kittel is our speaker. October 8<sup>th</sup> is the date. Michelle is looking for volunteers to assist in the planning. Cheryl Welch, Tim Hanson & Doug Neils volunteered.

**G. Open Positions - Resignation.** Jason Ruebl reminded everyone that we have an open position from Bill Veit stepping down. We also received a resignation from Todd Brehmer. He has moved on to another company outside of the Brillion area. He will be the Director of Veteran's Services. He expressed it as his dream job. Several Board members offered to talk with various members on stepping up to the Board.

Due to time-moving #9 up

## 9) City of Brillion - Cheryl Welch

Cheryl Welch is in need of a Board member to replace Todd Brehmer's position. The RDA met this morning. They have 5 priorities to focus closely on. They do need all of the businesses engaged. The businesses should come together on what to do with the HUB Building. Cheryl would like to help the Chamber and its members to get involved. Should the building down or be purchased? The goal is to get ALL businesses engaged to enhance the city as a whole, particularly the HUB area. East and west side of City are adding trails. RDA can also borrow funds. Michelle Ruebl asked if trails would lead to tourism projects. Cheryl indicated yes, they should also qualify. The Friendship Trail and Reesville's trail could lead into Brillion. Also looking at other ideas such as a 2 or 3 tent campground at Horn Park. Downtown and Hwy 10 are both important. We still have a couple of buildings that are vacant. The city needs to possibly change some codes to enhance or occupy these buildings. As the trails and tourism expand, It may help the businesses start up or existing ones grow. The City also wants to partner with the Farmer's market. To take a more active role. Tourism committee met. They had 3 grants. The Brillion Nature Center \$1150, Brillion Optimist Club \$2500 and The Brillion Area Jaycees Chili Dump \$350. The next round will be end of October. Michelle Ruebl asked Cheryl Welch to send me updates.

## 8) OLD BUSINESS:

**A. Membership Removal from website –non-renewals** – Michelle Ruebl is removing all of the companies who did not pay their membership dues from the website.

**B. Funds from Beer, Wine & Cheese** : Jason Ruebl went over the list of recommendations. Discussion ensued on the best options for the Chamber and the most critical areas of need. Cheryl Welch mentioned that any Hwy 10 items may need DOT approval first. Jason Ruebl mentioned that the landscaping around the signs need to be addressed. Cheryl Welch will work with Public Works on the landscaping and to get signs fixed. Will table this for September.

**ADJOURNMENT: Motion** Jennifer Kolberg moved to adjourn. Seconded by Doug Neils. Call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:45pm

Respectfully Submitted

Michelle Ruebl, Secretary/Treasurer – Brillion Chamber of Commerce