



## Chamber Board of Directors Meeting

October 12, 2023

(Meeting held in person and via Google Meet video conference)

# Meeting Minutes

### Attendees:

- **In Person:**

- **Board Members:** Brent Newkirk, Gordon Grohmann, Mel Beverlin, Erik Olson, Kathi Vandel, Sarah Hoffman, William McQueen, Lorri Stanislav
- **Non Board Members:** Victoria Campbell, Joyce Burch, Angel Hovey, Angela Buckle from Red Barn Farm, Beth from the Chronicle, Holly Grohmann
- **Via Google Meet:** Lorri Stanislav

Call to order – Brent Newkirk Time: 5:30 PM

I. Additions to the Agenda: Building “purchase”

II. Approval of September Agenda - William approved, Sarah seconded, all in favor

III. Approval of August Minutes - William approved, Sarah seconded, all in favor

IV. TREASURER’S REPORT - CK \$3,061.97, MM \$8,411.87, TX 64,874.28, OP \$13,344.66 TX is two checks behind (Aug and Sept). William approved, Kathi seconded, all approved

V. Bi-Law Reviews / Amendments: No Update. Kathi pointed out that the new members of the board do not have a copy of the Bi-Laws

- VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- ◆ Building “Purchase” update - Inspection

- 175 years old, needs a new roof, termite damage, no sign of remediation, building needs maintenance, bricks have been tuckpointed, the airconditioning on the second floor may need replacing.
- A bid has gone out to update the second floor to an apartment



- **It was recommended that we get bids for all the improvements and then go back to the city for future negotiations.**

## VII. OLD BUSINESS

- **New contract from City of Weston - Update?** - Lorri sent it to Mel and he will look at it. - No Discussion. The sub-committee finalized a response, and will be sent over to the board. Lorri gave the highlights of our response: They want a larger percentage of the sales tax money, we offered an alternative; Any event over 50 people would have a "usage fee". They want a Voting member on our board, we said no. We would propose to be involved with the city to help them fund raising. We will hold off because it may be changing again. **No Update**
- QR codes - Historic Buildings with plaques - William McQueen - The museum is on board but has to go to the historical committee to make sure they're on board. Lorri and William will attend the meeting - Lorri went to the meeting. The Museum loved the idea! Lorri found a company that can make a plaque that will include the QR code for each building. Lorri will look into a Grant to pay for all the plaques. - William reported that the museum is on board, and this project is proceeding. Lorri is going to look into a grant to pay for the plaques. This is proceeding. **Update? No Update Lorri will reach out to the merchants to see how they want to proceed.**
- Merchant Sampler Card - Lorri: Holly from La Bella Cucina had an idea of a "Bingo Card" or some kind of visitor card to encourage visitors to go to multiple stores. A number of stores have noticed that they have customers who only go to their store. Several ideas were presented by Lorri. The board was very interested. Lorri will come back to the next meeting with more ideas. - Lorri showed a sample of a "Bingo" card for merchants, to be discussed at the Annual Dinner. It will be paid for by merchants who participated. Lorri is going to meet with Holly to put it together. **Update? No Update**

**Marketing: Start prepping for Fall and the Holidays. Put the Military banners back up in November. We'll put "Father Christmas" banners up after Thanksgiving.**

- **The Billboard at Fort Leavenworth?**
- **PR updates: 96.5 Radio will be here all weekend. We are selected again in the Pitch magazine as the Best Road trip from Kansas City. Hanna won awards for the Best Bachelorette parties, and for Weston Wine!**
- **Ribbon Cuttings:**

**IX. CHAMBER EVENTS:**

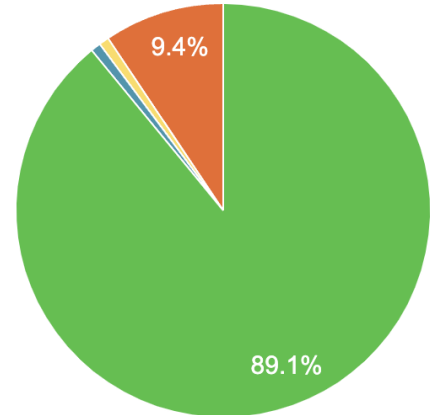
	<b>Chamber Events</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Chair:</b>
1	Bigfoot Search	Sat, April 22	Mel, Victoria, Lorri
2	Weston Roots Music Fest - 1st Planning meeting October 16th.	Sat, Jun 3	Victoria, Erik
3	Plein Air Painting	Sat, Jun 3	Jeff, Sarah
4	Juneteenth - Grant awarded	Sat, June 17	William
5	Independence Day Celebration and Parade	Sat, Jul 1	Gordon
6	Annual Dinner - It was suggested moving to the state park, and having it in May.	May or June	Lorri, Erik, William
7	<b>Applefest \$43,604.00 income, \$22,500.00 expenses, Estimated Net revenue \$15,000.00 vendors complaints about location at O'Malley's and didn't see the same traffic as Main Street. The city complained about Alcohol leaving O'Malley's. All Applebutter was sold. ATM fee income is not reflected.</b>	1st Weekend in October	Mel, Victoria, Brent
8	<b>Weston Holiday Open House and Tree Lighting - We have a tree, Kathi is in charge of decorating, Tom (Father Christmas) is not doing well and comprehending the changes.</b>	Sat, Nov 11	Lorri, Kathi
9	<b>Historic Candlelight Homes Tour - Met today. 7 locations, shuttle is set up, ticket sales have started. Senior tickets are for either day.</b>	Sat, Dec 3 and Sun, Dec 4	Lorri, Kathi

## X. NON CHAMBER EVENTS

	Non Chamber Events	Date: Date	Chair:
1	Weston MO Moonshiners Cruise -	Every 4th Sat of the month (5pm)	Stan Taulbee
2	Weston Testical Festival	Sat, May 6	Weston Tobacco
3	Polish Pottery Festival	Sat, May 13	Renditions
4	WineFest	Sat, May 20	Pirtle
5	Weston Area Wide Garage Sale Weekend:	Fri, Jun 2. Sat, Jun 3	Weston Chronicle
6	Flag Retirement @ City Hall)	No date yet	Contact Scouts
7	<b>Cheers to Cheese - At their farm, not their retail store.</b>	<b>Postponed to Saturday, October 21st.</b>	Green Dirt Farm
8	<b>Weston Tobacco Fest</b>	Sat, Oct 14	Weston Tobacco
9	<b>Weston Bluffs Trail run 5K/10K</b>	Sat, Sep 30	Kate Jones
10	<b>Chainsaw Carving in Weston</b>	Oct 28	Backroads Art
11	<b>Whiskey Fest</b>	Sat, Oct 28	Weston Tobacco
12	<b>Trick or Treat</b>	Tues, Oct 31	
13	<b>Peachfest</b>	TBD (August)	Orchard
14	<b>Small Art Festival</b>	Sept 9th and 10th	Artists Gallery

**XI. CHAMBER MEMBERSHIPS:**

<span style="color: green;">■</span> Current paying members	114	89.1%
<span style="color: purple;">■</span> Accounts on lifetime/one-time billing	0	0.0%
<span style="color: blue;">■</span> Accounts on free membership	1	0.8%
<span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Accounts with no renewal date	1	0.8%
<span style="color: orange;">■</span> Accounts past due	12	9.4%



Annual Recurring Revenue  
(current paying members)  
**\$13,690**

**XI.a New members:**

- **Business Membership:** Mexican Restaurant moving downtown November 1. 640 Pizza going out of business. Spa is gone too, and hearing for a B&B in the same building.

**XI.b Memberships past due: 11%**

**XII. OFFICE OPERATIONS -**

- **Visitors Guides - Lots remaining. No maps are available and need to be reprinted.**
- **Public Restrooms - There is a new cleaning service (Donna Crockett) and doing a fabulous job**
- **Walking Tours - Going well. Michael Bless is also doing tours as well.**
- **Website - Has been updated with Fall photos.**

**XII. Open Discussion** – Limit 5 topics, 3 min per topic: Mel said to replace the header board where the awning used to be and buy curtains for the windows. Update?

**XIV. Chamber Report at Board of Aldermen Meeting - Lorri, Mel, and Brent may go**

**Adjourn – Brent Newkirk Time: 6:52 PM**

**Next Meeting: November 9, 2023**