



Our mission is to grow, enhance, and support a vibrant business climate through leadership, professional development, and community involvement.

BARAGA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, August 14, 2024 - 8:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce Conference Room*

Call Meeting to Order - President Debbie Stouffer called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM.

BCCC Mission Statement - The mission statement was read by Trevor Juntunen.

Roll Call -

- Welcome new board member, Cody Mayer.
- Board Present: Debbie Stouffer, Trevor Juntunen, Cielle Waters-Umfleet, Jamie Smith, Nathan Grave, Cody Mayer, Daniel Mares.
- Staff Present: Mary Mervar, Dianne Koskinen.
- Board Absent: Carla Engle, Nicole Acciacca, Chelsea Klobucher, Annie Fish, Burt Mason.

Guests and Visitors - None.

Consent Agenda -

- Agenda 8/14/24, Minutes 6/12/24
- *Discussion:* None.
Action: Motion to approve the consent agenda by Trevor Juntunen, supported by Nathan Grave. All in favor.

Finance Report -

- Main Account
Beginning balance 6/1/24 = \$18,877.30
Ending balance 7/31/24 = \$32,892.73
CD = \$
- NextGen Account
Beginning balance 6/1/24 = \$35,477.66
Ending balance 7/31/24 = \$14,603.53
Discussion: SBAM membership. YTD, P&L, PayPal transfers, IDENTOGO.
Action: Motion to approve the finance report by Cielle Waters-Umfleet, supported by Jamie Smith. All in favor.

Support Staff Report -

- Thank you from Kaleidoscope, Camp 911, Baraga Area Schools.
- Memberships at 94 with a few still waiting processing. August 14 email reminders will be sent and September 30 a second invoice will be mailed to those who have not renewed.

Action Items -

- (a) Alternative savings account -

Discussion: With overdraft protection there is concern about the danger of fraud.

Suggestion was to start a savings account to have available to transfer to checking for daily operations. The potential risk doesn't indicate a need to take action. Nathan looks at the checking account monthly and Dianne checks several times a week. The interest earned would be negligible. The savings account will not be pursued.

Action: No action taken.

Discussion Items -

- (a) Word from the Chamber - Cielle will write it for the August newsletter.

- (b) Update bingo cards - done.

- (c) Next Gen After Business Hours - Jamie gave information to Next Gen and Next Gen will discuss it at the November meeting.

- (d) Golf tournament - net proceeds 2024 \$8,566.77, net proceeds 2023 \$8,214.73.

Expenses decreased for raffle, dinner, cart rental, and hole-in-one insurance. Expenses increased for prize money. Proceeds increased for mulligan, registrations, and raffle.

Proceeds decreased for 50-50. There was an increase in sponsorships, but a decrease in the TV6 auction proceeds. Menu change was well received.

- (e) MCC (Michigan Chamber of Commerce) and MACP (Michigan Association of Chamber Professionals) connected about membership. Mary and Dianne participated in their July Chamber Chat. Annual dues Investment is \$500 for MCC, \$350 for MACP, \$695 for both. Trevor, Cody, and Jamie took packets and will make a recommendation at the September meeting. SBAM membership was also brought up. How do we know if our members are using the benefits? Dianne will contact SBAM to see if they have a way of letting us know if our members are using it.

- (f) Strategic planning - Discussion resulted in four goals: Goal #1 - Expand Community Investment Strategies; Goal #2 - Assist Baraga County Chamber of Commerce Members with staffing retention; Goal #3 - Increase the Baraga County Chamber of Commerce Members by 10% annually; Goal #4 - Recruit and maintain 15 board members. Debbie and Jamie will work on developing strategies and the 2025-2027 Strategic Plan will be presented for approval at the September meeting. Regarding Goal #3, Dianne will go through a list of businesses in Baraga County from the MI DTMB website from a link provided by BCEDC to develop possibilities for member recruitment. How to fund Goal #1 was brought up (see Discussion Item g). Discussion about Goal #2 resulted in a suggestion to recruit new members to the workforce through high schools, targeting youth, and to possibly contact Kristine Maki to work on this or recruit her as a potential board member; also consider KBOCC internships.

- (g) Dynamo grant - Is this sustainable for the long term? Fundraising was discussed. The Chamber, being a 501C6, cannot apply for most grants, but can partner with a 501C3. Dan suggested a bingo fundraising opportunity, which led to further discussion about exploring 501C3, especially in regards to tax deductible donations. Deadline for Dynamo applications is September 3. So far there are three completed applications submitted with 6 more inquiries. Jamie Smith, Dan Mares, Ryan Perrigo, and Cody Mayer will serve on the Dynamo selection committee with a possibility of Gary Kruzich

from KBOCC business department joining the group. The committee will meet in September.

- (h) Holiday lights tours - Dianne emailed all townships, villages, and the CVB to let them know we are doing this. We will model it after the Yard Sale.
- (i) Boo on the Bay volunteers - Mary and Dianne will hand out treats. Mary will find out when it will be held.
- (j) Float in holiday parade - second weekend in December. The Chamber will not pursue entering a float but will go in on hotdogs with the CVB if asked.
- (k) Frozen Cup - December 13-14-15, second weekend in December. Rich Wickstrom, Debbie, Burt will meet in September. The economic impact of this event was discussed as well as the Chamber's goals in organizing the weekend.
- (l) ATV volunteers/report - Are volunteers needed? (Discuss at PLAN committee).
- (m) Audit by Karisa Mukka - Debbie will call her and get it going.

Board Training - None.

Committees Updates -

- Next Gen: No report. August 17 Glow Golf.
- PLAN: see notes in board packet.
- Membership: see support staff report.
- Housing Taskforce: see report in board packet
- Branding: no report
- Scholarship: no report

Announcements / Members' Good News -

- Smith Holistic Care will expand services to include massage and is looking for clients to practice on.

Next Meeting - The next BCCC board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 8:30 AM in the Chamber conference room.

Adjournment -

Action: Motion to adjourn by Trevor Juntunen, supported by Cielle Waters-Umfleet at 9:39 AM. All approved.