



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, December 4, 2024 - 8:30 AM
Chamber of Commerce Conference Room*

Rescheduled from 11/13/24

Call Meeting to Order - President Debbie Stouffer called the meeting to order at 8:40 AM.

BCCC Mission Statement - The mission statement was read by Burt Mason.

Roll Call -

- Board Present: Debbie Stouffer, Jamie Smith, Nathan Grave (phone), Burt Mason, Daniel Mares (phone), Nicole Acciacca (phone), Trevor Juntunen.
- Staff Present: Mary Mervar, Dianne Koskinen.
- Board Absent: Annie Fish (family leave), Chelsea Klobucher (resigned), Cody Mayer, Carla Engle, Cielle Waters-Umfleet.

Guests and Visitors - Danielle Reed, SNB. Introductions were made.

Consent Agenda -

- Agenda 12/4/24, Minutes 10/9/24
- *Discussion:* Additions to agenda - Discussion item (F) QuickBooks fees; Action item (I) BOD resignation.
Action: Motion made to approve the consent agenda by Trevor Juntunen, supported by Jamie Smith. All in favor.

Finance Report -

- Main Account
Beginning balance 11/1/24 = \$20,491.01
Ending balance 11/30/24 = \$13,769.21
CD balance 11/30/2024 = \$16,455.30 matures 5/10/2025
CD balance 11/30/3024 = \$15,321.43
- NextGen Account
Beginning balance 11/1/24 = \$14,582.40
Ending balance 11/30/24 = \$14,582.40

Discussion: It was determined there are enough funds to operate without reaching out to one of the CDs. Nathan will verify this at the end of December .

Action: Motion made to approve the finance report by Burt Mason, supported by Jamie Smith. All in favor.

Support Staff Report -

- Frozen Cup: Mary gave an update indicating that registrations are down this year and one division has been canceled. Feedback was solicited from prior tournament registrants which indicated redundancy in competing against familiar teams and lack of

activities in the area to entertain teams when not on the ice. Continuing the Frozen Cup in future years will be discussed.

- Membership: 17 outstanding memberships to date.
- Small Business Saturday: Chamber Open House was brought back this year with low attendance; however, this was held with nearly zero cost to the Chamber. Ideas for SBS 2025 are being discussed.
- Holiday Decor Tours: Halloween was well received by the public. Christmas is seeing a decent amount of interest. Two \$50 Baraga Bucks checks were given away randomly to hosting locations. Ideas are being discussed which include encouraging Bayside and Baragland Senior Citizens to hold mobile tours and Mary and Dianne reaching out to sites already decorated for Christmas to consider being listed on the map. Mary was approached by a volunteer who has organized tours in Marquette and is interested in assisting the Chamber.
- Christmas Cards: The Chamber will mail cards to members which will include the 2025 Save the Date flyer. Next Gen dates were confirmed and will be included.

Action Items -

A. Email motion 11/21/24 CD renewal

Discussion: The email motion to reinvest the 9 month CD which matured in November that has been designated for Dynamo grants did not have enough responses to either be adopted or rejected. The second CD held by the Chamber is an 11 month CD which will mature in May 2025.

Action: Motion made to reinvest the mature CD (balance of \$15,321.43) with Superior National Bank for 11 months by Trevor Juntunen, supported by Burt Mason. All in favor.

B. Budget Approval

Discussion: Chamber membership dues have been decreased. Let's Eat has been increased. The budget is at a \$5,767 deficit from projected income though there is no requirement for a balanced budget. The Chamber has the discretion to amend the budget throughout the year.

Action: Motion made to approve the 2025 budget as presented by Jamie Smith, supported by Burt Mason. All in favor.

C. Meadowbrook Arena signage request

Discussion: Banner cost is \$250 the first year with \$150 renewal each year as long as the banner is in good condition. Purchase of the banner will come out of the advertising budget.

Action: Motion made to purchase a 4' x 8' banner for \$250 with continuing annual renewal of \$150 by Nicole Acciacca, supported by Nathan Grave. All in favor.

D. Requests for donations - BFD Children's Christmas Party

Discussion: The Chamber donated \$100 in 2023.

Action: Motion made to donate \$100 to the 2024 Baraga Fire Department Children's Christmas Party by Nathan Grave, supported by Trevor Juntunen. All in favor.

E. Requests for donations - Light Up Baraga County hot dogs

Discussion: The Chamber split the cost of hot dogs with the CVB in 2023 with a 50% payment of \$154.06.

Action: Motion made to pay half the cost of the Light Up Baraga County 2024 hot dogs by Trevor Juntunen, supported by Jamie Smith. All in favor.

F. Request for donations - Kaleidoscope Giving Tuesday

Discussion: The Chamber prefers to support a particular event rather than donate to general operating costs.

Action: no action taken

G. Next Gen Liquor License for 3/1/25

Discussion: The application will be for the Oldtimers Hockey Tournament

Action: Motion made to apply for the Next Gen liquor licence for 3/1/25 by Trevor Juntunen, supported by Burt Mason. All in favor.

H. Bingo license

Discussion: Whirl-I-Gig has the equipment and would like to partner with the Chamber to operate bingo as a Chamber fundraiser. Jamie will submit the application.

Action: Motion made to apply for a bingo license by Trevor Juntunen, supported by Daniel Mares. All in favor.

I. Board of Directors Resignation

Discussion: Chelsea Klobucher has submitted her resignation from the Chamber BOD.

Action: Motion to accept a Board of Directors resignation from Chelsea Klobucher by Trevor Juntunen, supported by Burt Mason. All in favor.

Discussion Items -

A. Light Up Baraga County parade: The parade will be held on December 21, 2024. The Chamber declines to enter a float in the parade.

B. SBAM usage: There is very little usage of SBAM services by the Chamber members. The cost to the Chamber in 2024 of SBAM membership dues was \$1,630. SBAM paid Chamber membership dues of \$250. A suggestion was made to conduct a survey of Chamber members regarding Chamber membership benefits and usage.

Action: Motion to decline future renewal of SBAM membership with possible termination of current membership provided a refund is issued by Daniel Mares, supported by Jamie Smith. All in favor.

C. Word from the Chamber - Robert Carlisle: Jamie will contact Robert for December's Word.

D. Financial policy draft: Two edits were made to the draft.

Action: Motion to adopt the financial policy as revised by Nathan Grave, supported by Nicole Acciacca. All in favor.

E. Sponsorship brochure: The Chamber agreed that one brochure should be used for both the Chamber and Next Gen sponsorship opportunities. Both the Chamber and Next Gen will share their lists of past supporters. Dianne and Nicole will meet on December 12 to finalize the brochure.

- F. QuickBooks Fees: QuickBooks payroll direct deposit fees will increase to \$5 each deposit in 2025. A suggestion of printing payroll checks in-house was rejected. A suggestion of changing to monthly payroll instead of the current biweekly payroll will be considered. QuickBooks software fees will be looked into and be presented in January.

Board Training - None

Committees Updates -

- **Dynamo:** Jamie has set up a six month reporting date in April for grant recipients. All applicants were emailed to thank them for applying and notified of their application status; moving forward, USPS letters will be mailed. Delicata, The Tot Spot, and Keweenaw Custom Rods were chosen to receive Dynamo grants.
- **Next Gen:** 2025 event dates were confirmed.
- **PLAN:** see notes in board packet.
- **Membership:** See support staff report.
- **Housing Taskforce:** no report

Announcements / Members' Good News - None

Next Meeting - The next BCCC board meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 8:30 AM in the Chamber conference room.

Adjournment -

Action: Motion to adjourn at 9:59 AM by Trevor Juntunen, supported by Burt Mason. All in favor.