

Call Meeting to Order - President Debbie Stouffer called the meeting to order at 8:37 AM.

BCCC Mission Statement - The mission statement was read by Jamie Smith.

Roll Call -

- Board Present: Burt Mason, Joan Kruzich, Danielle Reeves, Cody Mayer (phone), Debbie Stouffer, Cielle Waters-Umfleet, Jamie Smith, Chris Davidson, Daniel Mares
- Staff Present: Mary Mervar, Dianne Koskinen
- Board Absent: Nicole Acciacca, Nathan Grave (excused)

Guests and Visitors - none

Consent Agenda -

Agenda 4/9/25, Minutes 2/12/25, 3/12/25 of Closed and Open sessions

Discussion: Addition to discussion items (D) Baraga County Visitor Guide, (E) Request for donation Next Gen Egg Hunt, (F) Request for donation Baraga County Lake Trout Festival, (G) Tarot response, (H) Brown Bag Auction item

Action: Motion to approve the consent agenda with additions by Burt Mason, supported by Cielle Waters-Umfleet. All in favor.

Board Training - None

Support Staff Report -

- Mary gave an update on Lunch & Learn. Joan and KBOCC signed up for January, 2026 and the culinary program will provide lunch.
- Mary gave an update on Mix & Mingle. It will be Friday, April 11 at 5:30 PM at the L'Anse Golf Club. Food is set. Scholarship recipients will attend. Ed Janisse will serve as auctioneer. Mary requested volunteers to help with the brown bag auction.
- Dianne reported that she and Mary participated in an on-line interview with a firm hired by Michigan Unemployment Agency to gather information, input, and opinions. The Chamber will receive a \$100 stipend for participating.

Action Items -

- A. Request for donation Baraga High School MTSS Team

Discussion: Multi Tier Systems of Support. The Chamber should give the same to the equivalent organization at L'Anse Area Schools which Chris said is PBIS.

Action: Motion to donate \$50 to Baraga High School MTSS and \$50 to L'Anse Area Schools PBIS Team by Daniel Mares, supported by Jamie Smith. All in favor.

B. Request for donation Bay Ambulance Camp 911

Discussion: The Chamber donated \$100 in 2024.

Action: Motion to donate \$100 to Bay Ambulance for Camp 911 by Cielle Waters-Umfleet, supported by Daniel Mares. All in favor.

C. L'Anse Sentinel Subscription

Discussion: Office staff utilize the subscription occasionally. The Sentinel is a Chamber member and the only local print news source and are good about picking up on Chamber news releases and publishing articles about the Chamber.

Action: Motion to continue the Chamber's L'Anse Sentinel subscription for 1 year at \$52 by Burt Mason, supported by Jamie Smith. All in favor.

Discussion Items -

- A. Dynamo grant reports for 2024 and Dynamo grants for 2025 - Jamie presented the progress reports from the 2024 Dynamo grant recipients. The Chamber would have liked more detailed information. Moving forward, the Dynamo committee will consider requiring recipients to complete a form in place of or in conjunction with their personalized reports, possibly using Copper Shores Community Health Foundation grant report as a model. The Dynamo committee will explore creating a news release with a follow-up story on the recipients. 2025 Dynamo suggestions included: half up front, remainder after reporting; issuing grants every other year; reducing the amount of the grants; reducing the number of recipients; no grants 2025 to be revisited 2026. Jamie, Dan, and Joan agree to continue to serve on the Dynamo committee and will add community members when making the decision. September 1, 2025 was suggested as an application deadline.

Action: Motion to issue a single Dynamo grant in 2025 with a maximum value of \$5,000 by Dan Mares, supported by Burt Mason. All in favor.

- B. Board of Directors resignation - Director Carla Engle submitted her letter of resignation effective immediately.

Action: Motion to accept the board of directors resignation from Carla Engle by Cielle Waters-Umfleet, supported by Jamie Smith. In favor: Joan Kruzich, Danielle Reeves, Cody Mayer (phone), Debbie Stouffer, Cielle Waters-Umfleet, Jamie Smith, Chris Davidson, Daniel Mares. Opposed: Burt Mason. Motion carried.

- C. Bingo - The Michigan bingo license application needs amendments to the lease with the Whirl-I-Gig regarding dates; it will be edited, resigned, and resubmitted. Burt discussed backup venues including Green Hill Manor and Baragaland Senior Citizens. There has been no further communication from the KBIC. An updated flyer with "DELAYED START" is being circulated.

- D. Baraga County Visitor Guide - The Chamber has purchased ¼ page advertisements in the past.

Action: Motion to place a ¼ page advertisement in the 2025 Baraga County Visitor Guide with focus on ATV event by Daniel Mares, supported by Cielle Waters-Umfleet. All in favor.

- E. Next Gen Easter Egg Hunt - there is a request for a donation. The Chamber donated \$100 to this event in 2024.
Action: Motion to donate \$100 to the 2025 Next Gen Easter Egg Hunt by Jamie Smith, supported by Daniel Mares. All in favor.
- F. Baraga County Lake Trout Festival - there is a request for a donation. The Chamber donated \$500 to this event in 2024 when it was run by the CVB. The L'Anse Fire Department took it over for 2025.
Action: Motion to donate \$500 to the 2025 Baraga County Lake Trout Festival by Daniel Mares, supported by Jamie Smith. All in favor.
- G. Tarot response- There were a few negative comments about the Chamber promoting the tarot reading event on 4/12/25. The Chamber will not respond to the comments but Mary will separately post criteria and conditions for Chamber promotions and use of the Conference Room.
- H. Mix and Mingle items - The Chamber would like the board of directors to donate a brown bag auction item valued at \$20 or more for the Mix and Mingle.

Committees Updates -

- Dynamo: see discussion item (A).
- Next Gen: no report.
- PLAN: see notes in board packet.
- Membership: One unpaid no response. One email commitment.
- Scholarship: Recipients have been selected from all three categories and awards will be presented at the Mix and Mingle on 4/11/25. The scholarship committee will discuss edits to the parameters for 2026.

Announcements / Members' Good News -

- Mix and Mingle April 11.
- Lunch & Learn April 16.
- Jamie Smith of Smith Holistic Care started providing services for the KBIC.

Next Meeting - The next BCCC board meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 8:45 AM in the Chamber conference room.

Adjournment -

Action: Motion to adjourn at 9:40 AM by Cielle Waters-Umfleet, supported by Daniel Mares. All in favor.