

**REMER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
October 18, 2016**

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Scott Kesti, Shane Dugan, Alicia Burgers and Kim Archer

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bob & Julie Stoeckel, Denny & Nancy Stefan, Walt & Carol Scollard, Jon Karner & Carol Johnson, Pat & Karen O'Neil, Bob & Su Ugstad, Sherri Logan, Kaara Nilsson, Donna Dugan, Dave DeLost, Marc Ruyak, Blaine Raushel and Lynn Wirtanen,

**NEW MEMBERS:** Barry & Sherri Berg, Christine Desmond and Greg Meek

- Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by President, Scott Kesti
- Additions and approval of agenda
  1. Turkey Bingo
  2. Christmas Crawl
  3. Chamber Christmas Party
- Motion to accept agenda

**M/S/P        S Logan/B Stoeckel/Passed**

- Meeting minutes from the last meeting were looked over
- Motion to accept minutes

**M/S/P        P O'Neil/B Ugstad/Passed**

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- Alicia submitted the financial report
  - The accounts are \$6,000 less than they were in October 2015
  - There is \$2,000 worth of Big Foot Merchandise that Marc Ruyak is purchasing
  - We added three new events this year
- Motion to accept the Financial Report

**M/S/P        S Logan/P O'Neil/Passed**

**LIBRARY REPORT:**

- The Library is enjoying the new furnace
- Scott will be putting in posts for the new sign next week and needs help!

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Harvest Festival Update:
  - a. **2017 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Festival:**
  - b. We need a Coordinator and Committee members:
    - i. What we are looking for is someone to oversee the whole thing; but we would like people to pick a project/event/job and be in charge of just that
    - ii. Sherri Logan – will be in charge of the Harvest Festival Raffle
    - iii. Marc Ruyak – Will make all the signs and make sure they get up
  - c. We will make a list of all the events & jobs that need someone to take it on and our hope is that Chamber members, co-workers, friends and family will take care of that event/job
  - d. Wrap Up:
    - i. Lost \$11
    - ii. Winners of Raffle: Angie Clinton 1<sup>st</sup> prize, Sandy Stefonic 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize & Tom Severson 3<sup>rd</sup> prize
2. Bluegrass Festival Update:
  - a. Lost \$1,400 – weather was a factor – we did not plan on making money the first year
    - i. Need better signage

- ii. Have it a week or two earlier
- iii. Provide tents
- b. It was suggested that we combine it earlier in the summer with another event; but that isn't an option – by combining it with a summer event you lose an opportunity to bring people into the community and there is the issue of finding enough volunteers to cover two consecutive events
- Motion by Bob Ugstad to move the Bluegrass Festival up to September 15 & 16 2017

**M/S/P B Ugstad/S Logan/Passed**

3. Fall Has It All Update:
  - a. Sold more buttons this year
  - b. School made six scarecrows and are planning on doing it again next year and making 12 to 13 – to be auctioned off – proceeds go to the Howard Prushek Scholarship
    - i. \$425 was raised for the scholarship this year!
  - c. Kids day – not a lot of kids – fun for those who came
    - i. Blaine and Savannah Pallets had the fastest car and it won the most races
    - ii. The Bigfoot car was the most wanted one but was not very fast!
    - iii. The cars are upstairs at the Depot, to get your car back – call Scott
    - iv. The Chamber is purchasing more cars – members can purchase a car for \$20 and try and beat Blaine next year!
    - v. If you want another car please call Sherri Logan - \$20 each
    - vi. The Box Car Derby will be held at all the events next year and there will be a \$3 charge to race
  - d. We will be combining Kids day with Fall Fest & The Library's book sale on September 30<sup>th</sup> 2017 and hope for better turnout for these events
4. Haunted House Update:
  - a. There will be a meeting Monday, October 24 at 6 pm at the Luvin Scoopful
  - b. Only five days to set up – starting Wednesday, October 26
  - c. Looking for volunteers, ideas and scary stuff!
5. Ad Committee Update:
  - a. Need a Coordinator
  - b. Make an advertising budget
6. Welcome Wagon Update:
  - a. Need a Coordinator & Committee
  - b. Contact businesses for free stuff, make baskets for new businesses and residents
    - i. Sherri Logan, Marc Ruyak, Sandy Stefonic and Christine Desmond
7. Public restrooms/Library/Tourist Information Sign Update:
  - a. The sign will go in the grassy area between the two driveways
  - b. Scott is putting in posts next week – help is needed

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. 2017 Budget:
  - a. Is a work in progress
  - b. The Chamber did well this year – only \$6,000 down from last year at this time; with three new events added this summer
  - c. 49 Business members
  - d. 7 Nonprofit members
  - e. 7 Family/Individuals
  - f. 2 new members tonight
  - g. Two new business in town: Serenity House and East Central Sports

- h. One more opening ... The Wagon Wheel
- i. New Owners at the Soo Line
- j. And the Clark will re-open soon

**WELCOME TO YOU ALL!**

- 2. 2017 Calendar of Events:
    - a. Have to wait for Jean and the Library to confirm or make changes for their events
    - b. Otherwise we have it ready – it will be going in the Walker paper next month
  - 3. Turkey Bingo and Silent auction of baked goods & gift baskets:
    - a. Sunday November 20 – Village Hall – 2 pm
    - b. Bring your baked goods/gift baskets by that morning
    - c. Bonnie will buy the Turkeys
  - 4. Christmas Crawl:
    - a. Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> – starting at 5 pm
    - b. Cheire Frick is heading this up again – thank you Cheire!
    - c. There was a vote on the what the raffle prize should be – cash or a prize ...
    - d. There will be a “Santa’s Stash” cash raffle
      - i. Prize: \$600, \$300 and \$100
      - ii. 1,000 tickets to sell
      - iii. Drawing will be at the Chamber Christmas party
  - 5. Chamber Christmas Party:
    - a. Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 5 pm at the Pub
      - i. Buffet dinner
      - ii. Inviting the non-member volunteers who helped out this summer as a thank you!
      - iii. Still a work in progress – more next month
    - b. It was suggested that the Chamber could hold monthly adult box car derby races ...
- Motion to Adjourn:

**M/S/P          K Nilsson /S Logan /Passed**

**NEXT MEETING 5 pm:  
November 8, 2016  
At The Depot**

Submitted by:  
Kim Archer  
Chamber Secretary