

**REMER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**MONTHLY MEETING**  
February 19, 2019

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Denise Green, Mary Daugherty

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dan Russell, Su Ugstad, Willie Huotari, Scott Kesti

- Meeting called to order @ 5:05 pm by President Denise Green
- Additions and approval of agenda
- Motion to accept agenda:

**M/S/P            D Russell/W Huotari/Passed**

**GUEST SPEAKER: David Bergman, Explore Minnesota Tourism**

Dave drove through Remer last year during our Bigfoot Days and was pleasantly surprised by how many people he saw on Main Street. He said we were doing a great job! He introduced us to some marketing ideas with the Explore Minnesota grants and Co-Op. Guidelines for the 2020 season will be out July 1, 2019 and deadline for application will be October 15, 2019 for the 2020 advertising year. Explore Minnesota will match dollar for dollar up to \$7,000. We will look into the guidelines when they become available this summer. Great way to reach outside of Minnesota for advertising!

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

**M/S/P            S Ugstad/W Huotari/Passed**

**SECRETARY REPORT:**

- Welcome Wagon baskets are still going great! I am in need of empty baskets now. Sizes and shapes can vary but should be at least 12-16". We have 2 baskets filled and ready to go, but I'd like to have at least 4 completed on hand.

**M/S/P**

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- Motion to accept the financial reports

**M/S/P            D Russell/S Ugstad/Passed**

**LIBRARY REPORT:**

Kaara submitted the library report by email:

- Started the rearranging process
  - Thank you to Dick Engen for building the bookcases
  - Thank you to all the volunteers that came out on Saturday the 16th for the big move. It went very smoothly. Feel free to walk over and take a look!
  - Next job is to get the kids section organized. Focus group of parents & kids would be ideal to get input for this section.
- Made progress getting classes together for crafting etc. Alicia Burgers volunteered to teach a class.
- Meeting with Infinity Graphics 2/20 to discuss the scrolling sign issues

Motion to accept the library report

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 2019 Membership cards have been sent out. If you did not receive one, please let Mary know
- **Mid MN Sled Dog Race & Chili Feed**
  - Donna emailed a report in her absence. She will go into detail more when she is back.
  - Very successful with @100 people paying for chili

- 1 restaurant (The Pickled Loon, Larson) & 8 individual entries
  - Winner was Larson from Pickled Loon who passed on the winnings to the runner up which was Jason from The Pub. Congrats to both!!
- **Storm Damage**
  - damage to the flagpole is at \$1,938.12
  - quote from Evergreen Electric for damage to the outside lights (LED's on pole) is at \$2000.00
  - PC to the scrolling sign will most likely need to be replaced
- **Events: Coordinators for each event**
  - Most all of our events have a coordinator, just need volunteer teams to help
  - We will cover this in more detail at the March meeting
- **MN Destinations**
  - We had some vacant space in the magazine to add more pictures of our events/community. Those were sent to Jayne.
- **Depot Cleaning**
  - Julie is in excruciating back pain and is unsure of her return to clean. Denise called her to find out for sure what she cleaned and what Dan is cleaning/stocking. A question was asked of Kaara to see, in Julie's absence, if the library volunteers would do a daily cleaning list. She will bring it to the group.
- **Vandalism**
  - The case is basically done/closed as one of the witnesses would not come forward to testify and incriminate him/herself, therefore, there is not enough evidence to prosecute.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Membership:** form a committee to look at each membership level and what it encompasses
  - tabled until the March meeting
- **Gambling permit**
  - Lisa from the city, has confirmed the council approved all of our raffle/liquor events for 2019
  - VP Ron has a proposal for raffle ideas - doing a big ticket item at \$20/ticket that can maybe be mobile to take to other area events and sell tickets there as well as in Remer. More to come upon Ron's return
- **Depot Organizing**
  - Denise, Mary & Kaara spent an afternoon at the Depot to assess the inventory both upstairs and downstairs and how to clean it out and organize it better
  - Thoughts were to make the middle room the actual meeting room with tables and chairs and make the current meeting room the true 'museum' and visitors center.
  - We would reach out to American Disposal for a dumpster for certain damaged items from upstairs and either use or donate things that we don't want/need.
  - Dates were set to start the process: **WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 27TH AT NOON** and again **SATURDAY MARCH 2nd** if needed. Please come if you are able.
- **Maintenance Team**
  - Denise proposed having a maintenance team to check out and report back to the Chamber about issues or concerns regarding the building and its grounds. They would report 2x a year.
  - Scott proposed we look at selling the building

- Selling the building needs to be discussed with the full Chamber before making a decision
- **Security System**
  - Denise got a quote from American Eagle to install cameras - @ \$4,300
  - Jerry Varner is on the Lake Country Power Grant committee & we will reach out to him to see if we qualify for available grant monies

**Motion to adjourn**

**M/S/P          W Huotari/S Ugstad/Passed**

**NEXT MEETING  
March 19, 2019 @ 5 PM  
AT THE DEPOT**

Submitted By:  
Mary Daugherty  
Chamber Secretary