

Dell Rapids Chamber of Commerce

Date of meeting: September 10, 2024

6:30 PM River Community Church

Chamber Board Members in Attendance: Officers: President-Amber Larson, Vice-President: Nate O'Bryan, Board Members: Mark McGraw (by phone) and Theresa Durfee

Others in Attendance: Mayor Tom Earley-City Liaison & Steve McFarland-City Administrator

The meeting was called to order by President Amber Larson.

Approval of Minutes: Nate made a motion to approve the August Secretary minutes as printed; second by Theresa; minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Amber provided report: Deposits \$134, Expenses \$5,986. Mark made a motion to approve the Treasurer report; second by Theresa; report approved.

Guests to be Heard: Tom and Steve thanked Amber and Nate for meeting with them and the council a few times to discuss the 2025 budget request. They mentioned the first reading of the 2025 budget has been approved and the second reading will be at the next city council meeting, September 16th. They also asked the Chamber board to be present at the new city hall dedication on Friday, September 27th; they would like the Chamber to hold a ribbon cutting.

Old Business:

1. **Senior Trail Ride:** This was held Sept 8th. Jessica did a great job organizing the event. The weather was great and there were 18 residents in attendance from Orchard Hills & Dells Nursing and Rehab. Alan Nedved from Ace assisted by finding community members to donate the use of their golf carts. The route went from Orchard Hills to the Bath house, then onto the trail to the Dam, then up 115 to Veteran's Memorial Park. The Sheriff's department led the group from the Park back to Orchard Hills for safety on the highway.
2. **City Budget Request Update:** This was included in the Guests to be Heard section. As part of the budget request, the board is planning to conduct a strategic plan. Amber and Nate have scheduled a meeting with one company out of Sioux Falls and will update the board. We would like to visit with another company as well.
3. **Homecoming Parade:** Amber will have a golf cart and welcomes anyone to join her for the parade on Friday, September 13th at 1 pm.
4. **Downtown Trick or Treat:** Theresa has been busy planning for the event. Sign ups are posted on the website and Facebook. She has been talking with members about sponsorships for the punchboard prizes/candy. The DRHS One-Act group will be running it this year. Nate will be the "trickster" to give out candy/prizes to kids. Lacey P mentioned that she can assist with poster printing with a vendor she works with at Pinz.
5. **Open Board Positions:** Amber shared that the new board members will fill the remaining terms of the two open positions. One will last through the Annual Banquet in 2025 and the other through the Annual Banquet in 2027. We have posted a Jotform link for interested candidates to answer some questions on their interests in becoming part of the board. It is open through September 20th. The board will then review the candidates answers and get in touch with them. It will be voted upon at the next meeting.
6. **Admin Position:** The personnel committee has conducted interviews and will make a recommendation to the board.

New Business:

1. **Christmas at the Dells Planning Committee:** The event will take place the first weekend in December – Dec 7th & 8th. Nate has offered to lead up the committee. He will schedule a meeting in the near future.
2. **Ribbon Cutting:** We have been in discussion with Eyesite on a date for a ribbon cutting at their new location. It was discussed to ask if BXCC would also like to have one in their new location as well. We will also talk with JR Alterations about hosting one to showcase the new additions to their store.
3. **Welcome Packets:** There are about 10 ready to be given out. Theresa has offered to make more as we get low.
4. **Quarry Days:** The Legion did not vote at their August meeting on whether they wanted to explore a combined event with the Chamber in 2025. Steve S has been trying to find a carnival for their event. The Chamber board has been contacted by several vendors wanting to lock in dates for the event. On that note and the fact that

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plans need to begin, Mark motioned that we move forward with setting the 2025 Quarry Day celebration as the 4th weekend in June 2025 (as traditionally held) – June 27-29, 2025. Nate second and the motion was approved by the board. We are open to future discussions with the Legion on combining Quarry Days and Cootie Days in future years.

Administrators Report: None

Upcoming Events:

1. Homecoming Parade: September 13, 2024
2. City Hall Dedication: September 27, 2024
3. Downtown Trick or Treat: October 25, 2024

Adjourn: Mark made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Nate seconded.

Next Meeting: Oct 8, 2024, 6:30 pm, River Community Church

Minutes Taken By: Amber Larson