



Oconto Falls Area Chamber of Commerce  
Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: NWTC, Oconto Falls

Agenda Item	Discussion	Follow-up Action
<b>I. Welcome</b>		
<b>II. Call to Order</b>	President Gail Yatso called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.	
<b>III. Introductions</b>	22 members in attendance; each introduced themselves.	If your business/organization would like to sponsor a meal for <b>2023</b> , please contact Katie Daul. With your sponsorship, you will be given time on the agenda to share about your business/organization.
<b>IV. Member Spotlight</b>	<p>NWTC is celebrating its 20-year anniversary in Oconto Falls! Please share NWTC is here - ask if classes are available locally. Lisa will provide a tour after the meeting.</p> <p>(Extra time was donated to OFSD) Dean Hess provided information on the upcoming referendum for Oconto Falls School District to address - building of a new middle school, provide secured entrances, and repair roofs.</p>	More information can be found at <a href="http://ocontofalls.referendumfacts.org">ocontofalls.referendumfacts.org</a> .
<b>V. Approval of Agenda</b>	<p>The agenda was approved as presented.</p> <p>Motion made by L. Gipp-Gandrin; seconded by Bahrke. Motion carried.</p>	
<b>VI. Reports</b>		
a. Secretary	Minutes from September were sent electronically prior to the meeting for review. Accepted as presented.	
b. Treasurer	The Treasurer's Report was shared at the meeting.	

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<p>c. Chamber Communications (Electronic Signs, Website, Social Media, Newsletter, Calendar)</p>	<p>Directory on website needs updating.          Facebook and Newsletter are going well.</p>	<p>Debbie to review and update, specifically City of Oconto Falls.          If you don't receive the newsletter, please sign up on our website.  <b>If you have something of interest, please share with the Chamber so it can be shared on your behalf.</b></p>
<p>d. Membership/Ribbon Cuttings</p>	<p>Ribbon cutting scheduled for 10/25 at 7:30a for Olive + Birch Boutique!          Looking to schedule ribbon cuttings for Hot Rod Detailing, S&amp;L, Canady &amp; Co., Wild Stitch, Lots of Deals.          Los Tres Magieyes (Oconto) will be opening soon.</p>	<p>Working on scheduling with owners.</p>
<p>e. City Administrator</p>	<p>City is in its budget season. Focus is on Main Street - for commercial and retail space upgrades. Looking to update ordinances and researching available funding/grants. Another priority is Industrial Park; then grow residential. Peter welcomed new Street Superintendent, Alan Winkler. New garbage bins will be arriving in November. Columbia Street will undergo construction in 2024 (\$1.8MM). City received \$300,000 in ARPA funds, with \$150,000 going to emergency radios.</p>	
<p><b>VII. Committee Reports/Events</b></p>		
<p>a. Oconto Falls Area Trail System</p>	<p>Cycling Coalition is adding trails to Fitness Trail, now at 4.1 mi of trails. A race is scheduled in January.</p>	
<p>b. Healthy Oconto County  Farmers Market</p>	<p>Bronze Designation - signs are up and will complete a press release  Planning for 2023 is already in the works.</p>	<p>BOD to finish press release.  Committee members needed! Reach out to Ashley Bahrke.</p>



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Nutrition & Physical Activity	Establishing a community garden is in planning stages and land near the ambulance garage is being reviewed.	Committee members needed! Reach out to Katie Daul or Ashley Bahrke.
c. Run for the Trails/Fall Event	Looking for ideas for a different event. Suggestions include a non-timed event. Suggestion to provide public notice of what the proceeds went towards (tangible). Other ideas include changing the date to not interfere with school.	Please reach out to Debbie Arndt or Danielle Kline, if interested in being on the committee.
d. 2023 Concert Series Planning	Looking for band suggestions for 2023 and will need more volunteers to hold series.  Concerts scheduled for 4th Friday in June, July, August	Contact any Board member if interested in being on concert series committee.
e. Leadership Oconto County	Ashley Bahrke is new Program Coordinator. November's session focuses on healthcare.	
<b>VIII. Old Business</b>		
a. Chamber Bucks	Continue to advertise chamber bucks with posters, pamphlets. Bucks can be mailed or purchased on our website store and mailed to you. You can also pick up at Hometown Vet (call ahead).  Reminder to consider chamber bucks for holidays, anniversaries, employee recognition, raffle prizes, etc.	Bill to check with payment window stalling.
b. City Signs	2 quotes from local businesses for 3x4 signs with options for different material. Roughly \$225 each, with locations finalized.	BOD to make decisions and order. City to assist in installation.
c. Bike Racks	Due to concrete shortage, project on hold until 2023. City to assist in installation.	HOLD until 2023.
d. Chamber Director	Looking to hire a part-time, paid Chamber Director.	Please see the job posting on our website. <a href="https://ocontofallschamber.com/employment-and-volunteer-opportunities/">https://ocontofallschamber.com/employment-and-volunteer-opportunities/</a>
e. Lotter Park	Civic signs have been removed.	



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<p>f. Election (Board of Directors)</p>	<p>Board of Director positions are open for election in November. Process is done annually and will fill up to 7 BODs per bylaws.</p>	<p>If you would like to be on the ballot for BOD election in November, please reach out to any current board member (listed on website) BY November 10.</p>
<p>g. Other Old Business</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p><b>IX. New Business</b></p>		
<p>a. Kiosks</p>	<p>On Chamber project list for 2023 for trail system. Checking with Cycling Coalition on trailheads.</p>	
<p>b. 2023 Budget</p>	<p>Membership reviewed the budget while the BOD answered inquiries. Grants from WEDC and T-Mobile were discussed as funding options for the pavilion.</p>	<p>BOD to send final to membership prior to November meeting.</p>
<p>c. 2023 Membership</p>	<p>Membership letters and applications have been emailed out and are also on the website for completion. Due date is 1/31/2023. Chamber is requesting members to print off of website or complete online to save costs of mailing.</p>	
<p>d. Other New Business</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p><b>X. Membership Updates</b></p>	<p>Membership shared updates. Of note:</p> <p>FFA started Fruit and Local Produce annual sale. Orders are due 11/28 with delivery around 12/14.</p> <p>Chiropractic Advantage is having a Halloween ‘Bone Check’ sale and also hosting a food drive during the month of November.</p> <p>New View - Bryce Iverson is the WI award winner for National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Presentation is 10/27 at 10a at Piggly Wiggly.</p> <p>Tri-County United Way - welcomes new director, Kevin Melnor.</p> <p>Nurse’s Nook - Adopt a Family programming going on now and includes options for support via meals and cleaning/hygiene baskets.</p>	



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	<p>Machickanee XC Ski: Spooky Walk 10/22 6-8p. Check out the new parking lot!</p> <p>Cellcom - offering \$15 home/business stationary replacement lines.</p> <p>OEC - Recycled 31 pallets of electronics. Employee Charities funding was delivered. Community Change applications being accepted.</p> <p>Lioness Club - Avenue of Lights - Lighting Ceremony 11/26 at 6p</p> <p>OFHS Music Dept - Mattress Sale 11/5 at the school</p> <p>Grace Lutheran Church - offering Community Thanksgiving meal. Donations and volunteers needed; watch for registration information. Joyful Noise concert will be held 6/24/23</p> <p>OFSD - Check out the school calendar. Also a feminine hygiene drive going on.</p> <p>OF Area Ambulance - Chili and Booyah Fundraiser 12/3, plus open house and raffles. Looking for locations to sell raffle tickets.</p> <p>NWTC - Working on after-hours access for students; Hour of Code class (free) for all ages. If you'd like to host a sandwich board at your location, specific to your industry, contact Lisa Gipp-Jandrin.</p>	<p>Meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.</p>
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**Next Membership Meeting:** November 17 at 12:00 p.m. at Oconto Falls City Hall (500 N. Chestnut Ave., Oconto Falls) and D's Bookkeeping will be sponsoring lunch.

**Next Board of Directors Meeting:** November 16 at 7:30 a.m. at HSHS St. Clare Memorial Hospital.