

Johnson City Chamber of Commerce BOD Open Meeting Minutes

Date: October 18, 2023

Start Time: 5:38pm

Meeting held at Johnson City Visitors Center.

Directors Present: Aaron Humphrey, Jeanne Parker, Rayette Bible, Miguel Lecuona (by phone), Bart Burkhard, Nancy Woodward, Darrin Cheraso, John Cedillo

Aaron Humphrey called the meeting to order at 5:38pm and took role.

Minutes

Minutes from the Board meeting on September 20, 2023 and September 28 were reviewed. Minor edits to the open meeting minutes from September 20 were discussed. Darrin Cheraso moved to approve the minutes as revised, Bart Burkhard seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Approved financials: Treasurer, Jeanne Parker, presented the September 2023 financials. Bart Burkhard moved to approve the financials, Darrin Cheraso seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

IRS & TX Workforce Commission: Jeannie Parker reported that our request to the IRS to adjust our income tax penalty is currently under consideration. Work continues to change our status with TWC from corporate to non-profit status. As a non-profit, we will not be required to collect Texas unemployment taxes for payroll. Jeanne Parker also reported that a review of the history on beautification funds has not uncovered any legally binding restrictions on the use of those funds.

Membership/Visitors Center Report

Darrin Cheraso reported strong attendance at the Visitor Center on October 14, the day of the annular eclipse.

Committee Reports

Lights Spectacular/Market Days

Signage Hire: Nothing to report.

Lights Spectacular Help: The committee is considering hiring contract help for set-up and breakdown, though a final decision is still to be determined.

Chamber Donation: John Cedillo is arranging a silent auction at our mixer at Carter Creek in December to raise money for our donation to Lights Spectacular.

Member Relations

Carter Creek Holiday Party: On December 7 we will hold our Annual Meeting at 5pm, followed by a mixer. Carter Creek has offered to donate the venue, drinks and food. Jeanne Parker suggested we consider combining our mixer invitees with Marble Falls chamber membership. Carter Creek is interested in supporting both chambers.

Next year's social events: Jeanne Parker reported that some of the committee members met with the President of the Lake Travis Chamber of Commerce. The meeting resulted in a strong list of potential events for next year. The committee will meet and report its conclusions in the future.

Communications

Website: Darrin Cheraso reported that the chamber website lacks headshots of the current board members. Miguel Licuona has volunteered his professional photography skills and Nancy Woodward agreed to follow up with him to arrange the photo shoot.

Newsletter: No significant changes planned before year end.

Open Discussion

Upcoming election: Discussion ensued regarding plans for upcoming elections. Plans are being formulated to use the electronic system "ElectionBuddy" to manage voting with accommodations for members who aren't comfortable with computerized voting.

Wine industry sign: John Cedillo reported that the wine industry has designed a sign to be posted on the highway near or in Johnson City to welcome visitors to the Texas Wine Country. The sign is ready and they are just looking for a location in which to install it.

Adjourn

Darrin Cheraso moved to adjourn the meeting. Bart Burkhard seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 6:39pm.

Meeting minutes completed by:

Nancy Woodward

Secretary