

## **Johnson City Chamber of Commerce BOD Meeting Minutes**

Date: 17 Jan 2023

Start Time: 5:32 pm

Meeting held at Johnson City Community Resource Center

Directors Present: Patty Chimene, Nancy Woodward, Bart Burkhard, Rayette Bible, Darrin Cheraso, Steve Sanchez, Miguel Lecuona (by phone), Aaron Humphrey, Sara Allen, Jeanne Parker

City of JC Liaison Present: Not present

Patty Chimene called the meeting to order at 5.32 pm. Roll was called.

### Guests:

Megan Baker, Deep Roots

### Minutes:

No corrections were noted in the minutes for the Chamber Board Meetings held on Nov 15 and Dec 12. Those minutes are to be filed as submitted.

### Treasurers Report:

Patty Chimene distributed financials for November and December 2022. Patty will be handing off the books in about 10 days to a new bookkeeper, Hilda Kruml. Approval of the financials presented will be tabled until the next meeting to allow more time for review.

### Membership and Visitor Center Report:

Lights Spectacular Market Days went well after the bad weather on opening day. Vendors seemed pleased with the event and our resulting revenue was strong. The City Park decorating was significantly enhanced over last this year. A general consensus after the event was that Lights Spectacular would benefit from more advance advertising next year.

The Visitors Center recorded 188 guests signed in for November and 450 in December (42 of whom were from outside the US). Guest parking is a big problem for the visitor's center, since the spots on Highway 290 were eliminated to allow for road improvements.

### Market Days:

The city is planning improvements to City Park which will make it unavailable for Market Days for the foreseeable future. We need to find a new location for Market Days before the first one this year in March. There has been some consideration of using space available by the Old Annex Market but the vendors prefer a location visible from Highway 290. Johnson City Chief Administrative Officer, Rick Schroder, suggests we close Ave G from Highway 290 to Pecan St. and locate vendors there. That space has access to public restrooms and power outlets. We would need to address access needs for Crowson Winery and Picnic'd. The area would likely hold 30 vendors but probably not 50. There is talk of installing more sophisticated street crossing technology on Highway 290 which might allow us to expand to both sides of the highway in the future.

### New Directors Installation:

The board thanked outgoing directors Patty Chimene and Steve Sanchez for their service. Sara Allen and John Cedillo were officially installed as new members of the Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors for a two year term beginning Tuesday, Jan 17, 2023 and ending at the board's regular meeting in January 2025.

Election of Officers:

Secretary, Nancy Woodward, announced the nominations received for officer positions as follows:

- President – Aaron Humphrey
- Vice-President – Darrin Cheraso
- Secretary – Nancy Woodward has agreed to continue
- Treasurer – Jeanne Parker has agreed to continue

Patty Chimene called for additional nominations and no other nominations were presented. Patty Chimene called for a separate vote on each position and each of the four nominees listed above were unanimously elected. These newly elected officers will serve a one year term ending at the board's regular meeting in January 2024.

Marketing for the Visitors Center:

New Visitors Center site is live at [johnsoncitytexasvisitorcenter.com](http://johnsoncitytexasvisitorcenter.com). The old Chamber of Commerce website is at [johnsoncitytexas.info](http://johnsoncitytexas.info). The chamber site will be revised to more directly address businesses that are members of the chamber.

Beautification:

Wall repairs are done and paid for, though someone has already backed into one. Patty Chimene says that we have had to drop the idea of building wall in the city park because of cost. Rayette Bible expressed concern that the city has the expectation we are doing something there so this needs to be addressed.

Next Meeting:

Bart Burkhard made a motion to hold a special meeting in the following week to form work committees. Sara Allen seconded the motion. After a discussion 5:30pm, January 24<sup>th</sup> was decided upon as the best date and time.

Adjournment:

Darrin Cheraso made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Steve Sanchez seconded. All agreed and the motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:19pm

Meeting Minutes Completed

by Nancy Woodward,

Secretary