**Board Meeting Minutes (Zoom)**

**4/5/2023**

**Present:** Kathy Fazendine, Jason Totland, Jackie Biaski, Lori Stratton, Sue Mauro

* **Old Business**

No Approval for text votes was needed.

The last meeting minutes were reviewed. Jason motioned for approval and Kathy seconded. The motion carried.

* **New Business**

The 4/19/23 General Meeting will be on 4/19/23 and will be catered by Merkle at the Usk facility. The EDC would like to make a presentation for approximately 10 minutes, regarding the clean energy grant money.

Jason reported that a lady named Melony associated with POVN, is starting a new business and would like to share information with the Chamber about a “5-day challenge to change your peer group”. Jason will follow-up and get more details.

Jason asked for ideas for Small Business Week (4/30/23 – 5/6/23)

* **Committee Updates**

**Financial Committee**

Kathy reported that there is a bank balance of $13,954.99 as of the end of March. The March expenses were $825.20.

Kathy shared that the State of Washington non-profit status is squared away but is still working with the IRS as no 990 had been filed during a select time of the Chambers existence prior to the current board as a group. This is causing the need for the bylaws to be re-submitted and we are unable to file as the Greater Newport Area Chamber of Commerce and must retain the corporate filed name. Kathy said that the IRS status will be applied for soon. She said there is a $600 charge.

**Membership Committee**

It was noted that Peachy Clean is the newest Chamber member and a couple of businesses just sent their renewals in. Jason said he would like to see *Quickbooks* setup so an auto-renew is sent to all current Chamber members.

Sue shared that the City passed a business license requirement starting in May. The businesses have 14 months to comply. The city will begin notifying the businesses.

**Nominating Committee**

No discussion occurred. We still have 9 of 11 members.

**Marketing Committee**

Jason reported that the business directory on the webpage still needs fixed.

Sue said that there needs to be a reference quick-sheet created that lists all

lodging facilities (hotels/motels/bed & breakfast and vrbo’s/air b& b’s known

of) along with all restaurants and all churches.

**Technology Committee**

In Joe Onley’s absence no EV charging station analytics were shared. Sue said that the City is looking for at property’s suitable for a level 3 charging center. It will require a CUP. Funding will be coming from the Clean Energy monies.

**Visitor Center Committee**

Jason said the Chamber can paint the parking lot lines when weather allows.

Jason reported that an Innovia Grant has been submitted to fund keeping

Lynette as an employee at the Visitors Center. He asked the group to keep

looking for other funding ideas to fund her employment. The other visitor center

staff are currently funded by AARP.

**Special Events Committee**

**Easter Egg Hunt at Newport City Park**

The Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday April 8th and the hunt begins at 10 am. At

the last meeting, the Chamber approved $400 towards the purchase of candy.

Enough donations have been received that are expense was only around $8. Sue

reported that the event is on track, is being advertised on KUBS fm, by window

flyers in 20 businesses, in the Miner, in the Beacon and on several social media

pages. Jason said that Lynette received a 30# box of chocolate foil-wrapped eggs

from Super 1 Foods as a donation. Jason was checking with the PUD to see if the

sign would be put up on Washington soon.

**Renaissance Fair**

Jason asked if the Chamber would like to have a booth at the library-sponsored

Renaissance Fair. Kathy volunteered to run a booth and will come up with an

idea to fit the theme. It’s on Saturday, May 20, 10 am - 5 pm. Jason suggested

that the Chamber have a year-to-year-use banner created for the fair and have

the PUD hang it.

**Gala**

Jackie, Kathy and Rori will arrange to meet over lunch next week to discuss the

gala.

The Zoom meeting was concluded at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Mauro for Mandy Walters, secretary