



Englewood Chamber Mission Statement:

***“Dedicated to Leading Economic Growth with a Balanced Voice between Local Businesses, Residents and Tourism that Creates Opportunities for our Community.”***

Board Meeting ...Wednesday ... August 11, 2021

## Minutes

Attending: Brian Faro, Shawn Emery, Shane Whitmore, Louise Cook, Jeremy Jones, Erin Halstead, Chris Porter, Jonathan Varner, Brian Pope, Richard Jean, Kristina Watts, Alfred Current, Kathleen Jarosik, Mark Knauf (*by phone*)

Staff: Doug Izzo - Executive Director

Absent: None

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:02 am. President Faro welcomed everyone, and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. A quorum is present.
2. **Motion to approve minutes** of last month’s meeting was made by Halstead, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Varner ... approved.
3. **President’s Report**
  - a. **Attended CRA meeting:** Idea to help Dearborn businesses is to purchase and build [www.DearbornIsOpen.com](http://www.DearbornIsOpen.com) so we can highlight Dearborn businesses and provide maps of locations and detour info during construction process.
  - b. **Committee Reports:**
    - i. **Leadership:** Watts reported that the Class of 2021 graduation is completed and the dinner went well. Echoed by Jarosik. Whitmore reported that plans are well underway for Class of 2022. The class has been chosen and notified. Watts has some meetings planned with a group of people to run SIMSOC in house for this year’s class.
    - ii. **Eye on Nature:** Izzo and Jones reported Scout attended the open house at Vineland Elementary. There were approximately 400 kids and parents in attendance. The table was very popular. The committee plans to attend all local elementary school open houses for next year. Lou is looking into the national non-profit day for perhaps plans to promote Eye on Nature for that day. Scout was also present at the Rotary Community Block Party held the previous weekend.
    - iii. **Ambassador Program:** Jean reported he is in the final stages of putting the committee together, and should have a final list of names next meeting.
    - iv. **Mansota Mystique:** Tickets, Diamond, Photo, and axe throwing sponsorships are all sold out. There are still ruby & emerald sponsorships available. Comments were made that it is exciting to see many “new” sponsors for this event, not the same as usual businesses. Silent auction items are still needed as well. The silent auction will be held completely online.

4. **Financial Update:** Knauf stated that there is an error of approximately \$29,000 in the bottom line that should not be there (\$5k for AC expense and \$29k in Manasota Mystique income). Otherwise the financial health of the Chamber is better than he has seen it since 2005.
5. **Executive Director's Report, Doug Izzo:**
  - a. **Golf Scramble:** This event was a huge success, but had a few minor issues that we will plan for next year. Profit is currently at \$22,408, but we will potentially have another payable for reprinting shirts of up to approximately \$1,250. This would still exceed the forecast of \$20k.
  - b. **Member Dashboard:** Renewals and new member lists were handed out. 5 new, 3 non-renew, bringing us to 707 current members.
  - c. **Upcoming Calendar of Events.** Board members were presented with the current list of events.
  - d. **Updated Web Site:** Updated web site design was shown. It should be live by the end of the month. This new site will be fully integrated with Chamber Master.
6. **Old Business:**
  - a. **Debbie German retirement:** Debbie's official last day was Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. Izzo stated that he is currently in the process of obtaining bids for bookkeeping services. There is no plan to replace Debbie with another person at this time. There is a small gap for volunteers on Friday afternoons and to cover vacations.
7. **New Business:**
  - a. Faro stated he is planning to reach out to Dearborn merchants to have a meeting at the Chamber to see how the Chamber can assist them through the construction process that is scheduled to begin on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. The plan is to begin at the corner of Elm/Magnolia and work their way East until after April 15<sup>th</sup> when they will start at Old Englewood Road and work Eastward. There is to be no construction in the 400-500 blocks from December 15<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. **Annual Picnic:** Izzo informed the Board that this event has had to be cancelled due to the band cancelling and the lack of participation this time. He hopes to plan this event for the future though.
  - c. **Chamber Guides:** Suggestions were made to distribute Chamber Guides to local title companies to ensure that new property owners have convenient access to them. Halstead will gather a list of title companies serving our community to move this effort forward.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 am. (Motion by Jean, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Varner)