



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 ... July 14, 2021

## Minutes

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

Staff: Doug Izzo - Executive Director

Absent: Louise Cook, Jeremy Jones

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 Current, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jean ... approved.
3. **President’s Report**
  - a. **Golf Scramble:** 33 of 36 Teams registered by deadline. If the last 3 teams are filled, those participants will not receive shirts or have logo on back. All sponsorships are full except 5 hole sponsorships for \$100 each.
  - b. **Manasota Mystique:** Theme reveal will be this evening at the business card exchange. Early ticket pricing will be \$125 each until September 1, when the price goes up to \$150. Halstead is currently working on making sure that Crestwood Road is graded right before the event, leaving the road in better condition than before the event.
  - c. **Committee Reports:**
    - i. **Leadership:** Watts reported that Healthcare Day and class are complete. Currently planning graduation on August 5<sup>th</sup> at The Waverly. Leadership applications are closed, 25 applications were received, and new class will be chosen next week. Feedback was given and a recommendation was made by Jarosik about discontinuing future use of Dial-A-Ride due to safety concerns for class members. Whitmore reported that the 2022 class will be held on Fridays, and they are looking into a new facilitator for SIMSOC. The co-chair for 2022 will be Jennifer Tucker with assistance from Jonathan Varner.
    - ii. **Eye on Nature:** Izzo reported on behalf of Jones first video was posted to Facebook for National Turtle Day. Traci Hamill, on behalf of the Rotary Club of Englewood, has invited Scout to participate in the Community Block Party event on July 18<sup>th</sup>. Izzo will bring Scout to sit at table with him. He was unable to find someone to “man” the costume due to vacations but will hand out \$5 off coupons for people to purchase a packet at the Chamber. Scout was also invited to an event at Vineland Elementary in August.
    - iii. **Ambassador Program:** Jean reported he has received applications and is currently reviewing them.

4. **Financial Update:** Knauf stated that he is pleasantly surprised we are operating in the positive. Izzo will look into where Leadership event and Golf Scramble registrations were showing.
5. **Executive Director's Report, Doug Izzo:**
  - a. **Smoked Mullet:** The turnout was very good, 70 people, which is in line with previous year attendance. Changing location to the Elks Lodge and time to breakfast was well received by attendees. Chamber did profit about \$1,300 from this event.
  - b. Debbie German has decided due to family needs, she will be retiring as of August 1<sup>st</sup>. Knauf is hoping to persuade her to work remotely on a less than part-time basis. Izzo stated that he has obtained 1 quote for bookkeeping services thus far, and with the integration of Chamber Master and our web site on the near horizon, he isn't thinking we will need to hire a full replacement for Debbie. Knauf stressed that we promote the need for more volunteers to keep the daily operation at the Chamber going. Discussion followed about marketing via social media and the digital billboard for volunteer needs.
  - c. **Member Dashboard:** Renewals and new member lists were handed out. 10 new, 9 non-renew, bringing us to 705 current members.
  - d. **Upcoming Calendar of Events.** Board members were presented with the current list of events.
6. **Old Business:** None
7. **New Business:**
  - a. **Let's Eat! Englewood Committee:** Ideas were shared regarding planning and participation for this year's event. Jarosik recommended asking Kim Parks for her enhancement ideas from last year that involved gamification and possible small prizes. The sponsoring of a menu item was also mentioned as a fundraiser for the Chamber. Discussion also included ensuring communication with all participating establishments on how the program works and stressing the importance of being open during the promotion time period.
  - b. **Annual Picnic:** Knauf and Izzo suggested we reintroduce the Chamber Community Picnic event. After discussion, the event will take place on August 21<sup>st</sup> at Englewood Beach from 4pm – 8pm. This would not be an event where we look for sponsorships or additional marketing to chamber members. The goal and focus of this event is community engagement. This is an opportunity to boast about the chambers accomplishments and celebrate our 80<sup>th</sup> birthday! Knauf is already in contact with entertainment, will get committee together to arrange food, drinks, cornhole, volleyball etc. Izzo will finalize and book the pavilion at Englewood Beach.

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 am. (Motion by Jarosik, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Whitmore)