



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 ... May 12, 2021

Minutes

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

Staff : Doug Izzo - Executive Director

Absent: Mark Knauf

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:01 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 Jarosik, 2nd by Jean ... approved.
3. **President’s Report**
 - a. **Signature Event:** Permitting is in process for event to be held at the Crestwood Circus Ranch. Manasota Beach Club has changed their position, and expressed interest in hosting our event again. We are waiting for details and a bid from them as a backup to the Circus Ranch venue.
 - b. **Committee Reports:**
 - i. **Leadership:** Watts reported that the last class, Hospitality & Tourism, went well but several class members were absent. Jarosik agreed, and they added that a shift in planning Charlotte County Day was necessary, and that Healthcare Day looks like it will work out since the decision to move t to July was made.
 - ii. **Governance:** Changes to by-laws were approved by Lori Emery and are filed.
 - iii. **Membership:** Watts reported that Milestone Member initiative has been received well and more recognition for members is in the planning stages.
4. **Financial Update:** Faro reported that after a discussion with Knauf, it is important that Board members participate, promote, and join efforts to create and plan recurring and new fundraisers. The Chamber cannot financially survive without these efforts.
5. **Executive Director’s Report:**
 - a. **Map Update:** Sales will show in May P&L, but will be an increase of prior year ad sales.
 - b. **Member Dash Board:** Renewals and new member lists were handed out.
 - c. **Upcoming Calendar of Events.** Board members were presented with the current list of events for the next two months.
 - d. **Building:**
 - i. A quote to repair the fence surrounding the dumpster was obtained, but Englewood Fence repaired it at no cost to the Chamber.
 - ii. Abbott Air serviced and repaired the A/C at no charge.
 - iii. The OWL and AV equipment is scheduled to be installed by Monday.

6. Old Business:

a. Committees:

- i. Izzo would like to form a Government Committee to focus on the happenings of each County and how it relates to our Chamber and its members.
- ii. Jean presented his outline for an Ambassador Committee, and said the application to apply for an Ambassador Committee position will be on the web site in the next few days. He has run a similar committee in the past, and found it to be successful in engaging current and new members to be involved in the Chamber events, which increases the value of the Chamber as a whole.
- iii. Jones reported that the Eye on Nature Committee will be meeting on 5/18 and he will have more to report to the board at our June meeting.

7. New Business:

- a. Golf Tournament: Will replace Putt-Putt. The general feel from restaurants that previously participated in putt-putt event is supportive and that they will not be negatively impacted by retiring the event. The new event will take place at The Hills Golf Course on July 31, with a goal (and cap) of 36 teams of 4. Additional funds will be raised through 50/50, silent auction items, mulligans, etc. Current suggested a pre-party on the eve of the event to include non-golfers.
- b. The status of having "Sunkist the foster cat was discussed by the board. A majority of the board agreed that the initial fostering was a fun way to support EARS, the length of stay is becoming an issue. There is concern for the potential for allergies in walk-in clients as well as the liability for the long term costs of caring for the cat. It was voted that serious efforts be made toward finding Sunkist a permanent home begin immediately, and that no further fostering should occur for any type of animal in the Chamber building.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 am. (Motion by Jean, 2nd by Cook)