

**Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors Meeting
Location: Zoom Call
Monday, May 18th, 2020**

1) **Call to order:** President Tony Reyes (6:31pm)

2) **Attending:** Stacie Tennison, Tony Reyes, Mike Peetoom, Yvonne Lindquist, Liz Thornton, Vanessa Bell, Danielle Gaughen, Doralee Booth - Billy Brown had technical difficulties, but popped in and out of the call.

Absent: Katty Dooley, Sarah Zarembo

3) **Public Comment:** (3 minutes) None -

4) **Approval of Minutes:** Yvonne Motioned to approve the minutes - Vanessa seconded - All were in favor.

5) **Finance Reports:** *Yvonne*

- Bank Balance \$4756.71
- Remaining Payroll for May \$1200.
- LTac should be here this week - About \$3,609.62
- Ltac Balance \$73,403.06

6) **Member of the Month:**

- May Member was the School District. Had superintendent on Chamber Chat - He was very appreciative, and would pass it along to the staff.
- Vanessa wondered if Bus Drivers could be MOTM
- Danielle thought it would be cute to nominate the class of 2020 to be "Future Members of the Month"
 - o Board agrees we should do something special for the graduates for 2020.
- Woods Coffee - Nominated as member of the month
 - o Donated Coffee for Coffee with the Contractor.
 - All in Favor!

7) **Executive Report:**

- Covid-19 Page on Website
- Sharing as much info on Facebook
 - o Liz requested everyone comments, or likes, or shares.
- Online Networking **has** been successful.
 - o Last Week - Sharron Shewmake – **42nd legislative district rep. & Amber Forest - Birch Bay State Park Manager.**
 - o Liz asked for suggestions for guest speakers.
 - o People like them and have thanked us.
 - o Liz is going to get Erika L. (Health Department) to come the Chamber Chat.
- Helped Heidi with BBBPRD2 do an online trivia.

- Cleaned outside the VIC
 - Wanting to get flowers and do that.
- Liz asked to serve on Whatcom County Covid Task Force
 - Helping businesses with requirements and restrictions.
 - Liz is a co-leader for our area. Will have regular trainings.
- Erika from Health Department asked if Visitor Centers could be a location for businesses and masks donated.
 - There was discussion if this was something we should do.
 - When Liz has more details she will send them out.
 - Masks would be provided by the Health Department.

8) 4th of July:

- Doralee will be attending a call this Wednesday 12:00pm regarding Birch Bay Fourth of July Fireworks.
 - Lots of requests have been coming into the Visitor Center Employees.
 - Purpose of the call is how to control the chaos.
- Doralee asked for the input of the board.
- Mike thinks 5-10K people is a “light” number for the event this year due to “First Amendment Folks “going BIG”
- Chamber doesn’t advertise it, but we do organize the cleanup the next day.
 - Should we organize a cleanup this year, what does that look like?
 - Hazmat Suits???
- Doralee will send us a communication after the call.
- The Board didn’t want to have much to do with it, as it isn’t our event, but we want to emphasize people who come to Birch Bay to RESPECT the Bay!
- Doralee - to work with BBWARM & Erika L. regarding what the clean-up will look like.

9) Summer Events:

- Virtual Sand Sculpture Event
- Build a sculpture, take a picture, submit a photo!
 - Through the Month of July
 - Start Promoting it NOW
 - Need to get some prizes
 - Judging - Peoples Choice - Via Social Media
 - Committee - Vanessa Bell & Doralee

10) Website Direction:

- Should we put out a formal statement regarding what we are doing for the summer?
- Everyone has many personal opinions on this.
 - This went nowhere.

11) Summer Visitor Center Plan:

- Liz still isn’t sure when we can open it up. Hopefully Phase 2.
- Hours will probably stay pretty small.
 - Kids are still home and childcare is an issue.
- Visitors are still calling and wanting to visit.

- o Resorts are opening at the end of the May.
- o Tourists won't have anywhere to go, besides the beach.

12) Chamber Covid-19 Policy:

- Tony very concerned why we needed to have this.
- In the last meeting the Board of Directors asked for a formal statement.
- Doralee wrote it. As she was asked to write it.
 - o The importance of **NOT** sharing your PERSONAL opinions when you are REPRESENTING the BIRCH BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
 - o Employees want to have a clear direct message from the board of directors.
- Our Policy needs to be united and in-line with Whatcom County's Policy.
 - o BBCC has the Duty of Care, Loyalty and Obedience.
- We might even have enough votes for this to pass without any further discussion on the topic.
 - YES VOTES: Vanessa, Katty, Stacie, Billy & Doralee
- After discussion about everyone's "personal opinions". It was again stressed that Doralee was asked to draft a policy, and we need to clarify what we tell our membership. We need to stand aligned with Unified Command. We cannot go against that.
 - o We are responsible to be leaders.
 - o

13) Class of 2020:

- Mike is "working on something"
 - o Working on getting the kids a graduation, parade.
- Include graduates in our newsletter
- Mike: City of Blaine 25K bid to but up signs for each kid.
 - o 12.5K from City.
 - o School will do 11K
 - Asked if we could do something.
 - Liz worried that it wouldn't be something that would be reimbursable.
- Billy asked Mike to make a motion regarding what he wanted.
 - o Yvonne made a motion that the BBCC donate some \$\$ for the signage for the class of 2020.
 - We could use it as "ADVERTISING"
 - Walk up - middle of town Graduation.
 - or a Parade...
 - Mike working with Superintendent & Mike from Blaine City.
 - o With everyone staying home, who is going into Blaine? Can we do the Birch Bay kids in Birch Bay?
- Board needs more information to be able to vote on this.
- Doralee wants to do a BIRCH BAY Graduate Parade, or something for the kids.

14) New Business:

- Need to get our Welcome to Birch Bay Sign back up.
- Need to get ready for the next phase of reopening.
 - o Billy stressed we need a PLAN.

- Liz and Danielle to work on that this week.

Respectfully submitted by:

Danielle Gaughen, edited by Secretary Doralee Booth