

Phelps Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes
Tuesday May 4th, 2010
Place: Phelps Town Hall
Time: 6:00pm

Present: Martin Primich, Cindy Spurgeon, Jeanne Brown, Tuckey Requa, Connie McArdle, John Huza, Delnice Hill, Mary Ann Bickler

Agenda:

1. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by President M. Primich at 6:00 p.m.
2. Verification of Public Notification - Verified
3. Approval of April Minutes – Move to approve J. Brown, Second T. Requa.
Approved
4. Director’s Report – Written Report Submitted.
 - a. Vilas County Chamber of Commerce meeting in Manitowish Waters on 4/8. Items to be discussed: October 2010 Resort Tour either October 14 or 21. The board selected October 14 at this evening's meeting. The Vilas County Chamber is placing and paying for an ad in the 2010 “Summer Fun Guide” a publication that will be distributed mostly in the Fox Valley and Wisconsin Dells areas. Each chamber was allowed to list one event in the ad. The Phelps Chamber listed the kickball tournament schedule for June 26. Our 2010 membership guide was sent to the Boulder Junction Chamber of Commerce. The director of that chamber is working directly with Northwoods Maps to create the 2010 Vilas/Oneida County Map. Chamber members will be contacted by Northwoods Maps regarding purchasing ads.
 - b. Chamber members have started returning completed TravelWisconsin.com data forms. Information is being entered in the tourism website as they are returned to the chamber office.
 - c. Letterhead, business card, envelopes and window signs with the new logo have been received from Grass Lake Images.
 - d. Name tags for director and board have been received from Laser Innovations.
 - e. No new membersMotion to accept director's report was made by T. Requa, 2nd by D. Hill. Report accepted.
5. Treasurer’s Report – No report available
6. Smelt Fry – M. Primich reported that our timing was bad this year. He and the volunteers missed the run as they were too early. Nets were set out for two nights with no fish harvested. The nets were pulled when M. Primich had to leave town for a planned trip. After the nets were pulled, the run began. M. Primich made the decision as Board President to cancel the event for 2010. We will begin planning and organizing for the 2011 event much earlier.
7. Rummage-A-Rama
 - Maps – Bickler contacted the LOL Chamber for information on the maps used in their community sale. They paid approx. \$115.00 for 1000 maps and approx. \$150 for signs for sellers to place in their yard. The maps and signs

were done by Grass Lake Images. Bickler will contact Grass Lake to get the maps done.

- Advertising – Bickler asked for permission to place ads in local papers and on the radio for the sale. M. Primich asked Bickler to get the budget and ad costs from previous year from treasurer, Spurgeon before a decision was made on ads.
- Dining – The Women's Club decided not to do a brat sale the day if the event so as not to take business away from the local restaurants. Bickler will contact restaurants about advertising dining specials for that day o the map.

8. Kickball

- Advertising - Bickler asked for permission to place ads in local papers and on the radio for. M. Primich asked Bickler to get the budget and ad costs from previous year from treasurer, Spurgeon before a decision was made on ads.
- At a previous meeting, the board decided that the tournament will be one day rather than two. That may make recruiting teams to play easier. Bickler will contact Miller for signs to advertise the event. We also need to find referees and volunteers to sell food. (This will be discussed more at the June meeting)

9. 4th of July

- Concessions – Bickler received a request from a member of St. Mary's parish to sell deserts at the 4th of July Picnic. This request generated more than ½ hour of discussion between board members about how allowing other groups in Phelps to sell items at Chamber sponsored events would take away from the fund raising possibilities for the chamber. Based on this discussion T. Requa made the following motion: The chamber chooses not to allow food vendors other than the chamber at chamber events. The motion was seconded by McArdle. Requa then rescinded the motion and McArdle seconded. Requa then made the following revised motion: The chamber chooses not to allow food vendors other than the chamber at the chamber's 4th of July event. McArdle seconded the motion. The motion was approved with one board member opposing.

10. Street Signs/Banners – Bickler had price quotes and sample material for the banner for the light poles in town from Display Sales in Bloomington, MN. The board asked Bickler to get one or two more price quotes before a decision to purchase is made. Bickler stated she will have more quotes at the June meeting.

11. Gateway Visitor Information Centers Brochure Distribution – Bickler explained to the board that the State of Wisconsin had closed all 10 of the Visitor Welcome Centers throughout the state. The centers will be reopened and operated by the closest chamber of commerce to each site. We can get our Visitor Guide in the centers for display, but because the program is no longer run by the state, we have to pay a fee of \$250 to display our Visitor Guides. Huza made a motion to pay the fee and ship our guides to the centers. 2nd by Brown. Approved.

12. Inn Line Kiosk – Bickler asked for permission to have the Inn-Line kiosk removed from the chamber office. It costs the chamber to have embers listed and there is a cost for the phone line. Hill made a motion to remove the kiosk, Requa 2nd. Approved.

13. Farmer's Market – Bickler was approached by a community member about the chamber sponsoring a farmer's market in town this summer. The board asked her to contact the Land O' Lakes and Eagle River Chambers to find out how they run their markets.
14. Musky Marathon @ Midwest Classic – Janet from Vilas County Tourism requested to be present at registration for the Chamber's Musky Marathon in October to distribute information about the county's Midwest Musky Classic Tournament. The board asked Bickler to find out if Vilas County Tourism will help promote our tournament. Bickler will contact Janet st VC Tourism.
15. Business Identification (Co-op w/BDC) – Primich stated that no one really know how many businesses are in Phelps. He said that many businesses are run out of private homes and there is no accurate list. Primich will write an email to be sent to chamber members asking for their help to locate businesses. He asked the chamber board to help locate those businesses and get the information to Bickler at the chamber office so she can begin building the list.
16. Email regarding empty office. - One of the new members sent an email recently when the office was closed and the Chamber office was closed. The member was concerned that no one was in the office to answer questions from visitors. Primich and Bickler reassured the member that the office was covered with voice mail changed to indicate the office was closed and Bickler checked email everyday and responded as needed. Spurgeon suggested recruiting volunteers to staff the office when Bickler is out for vacations etc. Bickler said she had worked to develop a volunteer program in her previous job and would work on a similar paln for the chamber.
17. Ideas – Business / Events – Primich asked all board members to think about new events the chamber could sponsor beginning in 2011. The following were suggested. A marathon, biking events, silent sports and things that are geared more toward health and fitness. Primich asked the board to bring more ideas to the next meeting.
18. New/Old Business – Tuckey asked if the Chamber was willing to donate two \$25 gift certificates to the school as prizes for their biggest loser contest. Huza made a motion to approve, Hill 2nd. Approved.

Hill explained about a new program at the school to have three community members to serve as “community liaisons” in the school to help with community service at the school.

19. Next Meeting Reminder – Next meeting will be June 1, 2010, 6:00 p..m Phelps Town Hall.
20. Adjourn – Motion to adjourn made by McArdle, Requa 2nd. Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Mary Ann Bickler
Director – Phelps Chamber of Commerce