

## Harrington Area Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes November 3, 2021

### Attendees

Cade Clarke, Kathi Matthews, Paula Harrington, Karen Robertson, Cindy Haase, Heather Slack, Joe Armand, Tauya Sanford, Cherie MacClellan, Kathy Uto, Julia Jacobsen

Called to order: 4:03 pm at the Post & Office.

The October 6, 2021 minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

The treasurer's report was unanimously approved as presented showing a balance of \$6,910.82. There were no transactions since last month's report.

### Nominations of Officers for 2022

Secretary – Joe Armand

Cindy Haase – Treasurer

Paula Harrington – President

\_\_\_\_\_ – Vice President

Cade will not be continuing as Vice President because he will be finishing his bachelors degree and beginning his masters. We can take this month to talk with people and gather nominees. We will vote for this office next month as well.

### Yard of the Month

Cade will continue to place the sign while he's working on his degrees.

### Poinsettia Sale

Betty Warner will not be selling poinsettias at the Bazaar as she will sell on November 27<sup>th</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup> at the FFA Christmas Extravaganza out of the greenhouse at the school.

### Christmas Wreaths

The Chamber approved the purchase of 20 wreaths from the FFA at the October meeting. Paula has new pinecones and bows and will buy more bows. Tim has new bows as well. Looking for enough ornaments to make the wreaths fuller. Karen will check at the Opera House to see if there are any that we can have. Assembly of the wreaths will probably be the Monday after Thanksgiving, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

### Halloween Recap

There were fewer children than anticipated but it was great! Maybe should have been on Saturday rather than on Sunday. Next year, Halloween is on Monday so we might want to think about doing it on Saturday. It was good to see the banners on the tables so everyone knew who was taking part. Another idea is that the businesses can put their tables out on Friday afternoon. Then the students could come down to trick or treat. More children might come out in the daytime but some people enjoy seeing the families together and being able to socialize with each other. The weather is a huge factor so we'll have see what it's going to be like next year, as well.

### Chamber Mailer and Newsletter

The mailer submission date is changed to November 19<sup>th</sup>. An email notice of the date change will be sent to all Chamber members. The 330-copy newsletter submissions may be left at the Post & Office, City Hall, Studio 1 on South 3<sup>rd</sup> or Haase Insurance. Joe Armand will write the newsletter and Paula

will print it. Content options were given. Cherie will show Joe how to do the paperwork for the door-to-door direct mail process. It was suggested that the Chamber could charge a fee for this service and advertise the resource on Harrington Virtual Yardsale (HVY). Another idea is to post all of the pages of the completed mailer on HVY Facebook and the Harringtonbiz.com website.

### Membership Dues

Cherie will mail the membership forms between Christmas and New Years so the envelope doesn't get lost in Christmas activities. No cover letter is necessary for renewals. A paragraph inviting new members can be included in the newsletter.

### Kiosks

Do we want to offer kiosk space for the public to post ad fliers, especially businesses and organizations? The kiosks are intended for public use, as well. Given this groups' agreement, Cherie will ask the City for permission. Sheet protectors will be used to keep the fliers from curling and the Country Back Roads map will be laminated by the school for display in the kiosks.

### Harrington Hometown Christmas Weekend Activities

This is meant to be a community event where different organizations play a part and everyone works together.

Chamber: Kathy Hoob and Josh Steward will decorate the lightpoles, the tree and set up the nativity scene before the event weekend. It's important to check with the City about putting the lights on the poles and plugging them in earlier than usual. The idea of Miss Harrington lighting the tree was well received.

PTA: Vendors will be in Memorial Hall. Santa will be in the Hall, too.

Harrington School Band: They will host the soup bar, also in Memorial Hall, as a fund raising event.

Lions Club: Will place decorations at the top of the poles along with the decorations that span third street (which do not attach to the poles).

The Opera House Society: Rummage sale on Friday and Saturday. There is usually a Santa at the Opera House for pictures with Santa but they have opted not to do that this year.

The annual donation request letters have gone out. The list of senior citizen gift basket recipients is being worked on. The Chamber is working with the school to see if they are going to need any additional funds or food for any families. We are also the funnel for the tree of sharing.

The food bank has canned goods (for example green beans) and time to order more canned goods. They will not be getting any meat this year.

### School News

- Family night tomorrow. Natalie Turner is coming. She talks to kids about regulating emotions and how to handle being angry. This is a school family event but the public can come if they want to.
- Next Wednesday, November 10th is the Veteran's Day Assembly. School is closed November 11<sup>th</sup> to honor Veteran's Day. Community members are welcome. If you know of any veterans, Mr. Cronrath would like to have photos of them to display. Goody bags are being made for the veterans that attend. Please give Taunya Sanford the names of any veterans that you know of so that they can be added to the list.
- Parent/Teacher conferences are coming up. Half days will be the 19<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>.

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- Taunya was thanked for coming to the meeting and sharing school activity information. Some of us would not know any of this if she hadn't. Especially the people who don't have children in school. She believes that the school and the community have to work together because if we don't have one, we don't have the other.
- Mr. Ikehara has a new machine that cuts thin pieces of wood. It was suggested that he could cut out the tags for the tree of sharing and which would become an ornament. This idea was very well received by the group.
- The pool is now open for night swim for the community on Tuesdays from 5:00 to 8:00. There is a lifeguard. We need to work hard to get the word out. Someone should be in contact with the lifeguard regarding changes in the pool open schedule so the changes can be posted. At this time, there is no time set aside for adult swim.
- Tags for the Tree of Sharing will come from kids at the school. Cindy, Heather and Kelli usually coordinate how that works.

The tree goes up right after Thanksgiving, usually, and we put tags up and the community comes out and picks tags and gets gifts. Cade offered to help with funding for the tags. If a donor wants to give to a specific project, mark that on the donation and their funds will go into that project. We will probably have enough money for the baskets. The tree of sharing is probably where donations are most needed.

The idea of a mentorship program was brought up. The older school students would spend time at a business and learn more about behind-the-scenes tasks that have to be done for the business to succeed. There may also be ways that the students can mentor businesses and teach the employees something that they know well. It can also serve to fill their community service hours.

Community service is required by Harrington School students and they usually have to find a way to fill the hours. For graduation, they need 5, 10, 15, 20 hours from 9th through 12th grades.

Some of the school children can not have their photo posted online and others can. There is a list at the school. Be sure to check with them first..

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 4:00. Location is The Post & Office.**