

Baxter Chamber of Commerce – April 2022 meeting

Meeting date/time – Tuesday, April 5th, 2022 at 6pm **Minutes**

Meeting location – The Hideout

Attendees: Casey Illingsworth, Joann Maxwell, Peggy Smith, Chris Roby & Natalie Moorman

Agenda

Old business:

- Minutes; **March minutes were reviewed and approved by Peggy, 2nd by Joann**
- Treasurer's report - Karen DeJong – **\$2685.33 Feb balance (includes \$166.50 raised by Welcome Committee for selling of towels in December 2020 (no other charges were provided by Treasurer) Current invoice due for 37.50 to Sass & Soul for \$37.50 for cost of 15 Welcome bags. Approved by Chris, 2nd by Joann**
- Update on Baxter area business book **\$75 was approved by votes/BCC members**
- Update on Hillbilly Bicycle Ride on June 4th - **wait for Karen Finch to provide an update later.**
- **A city map was presented listing businesses. No changes were needed for this to go to print.**
- Update on Joint meeting scheduled for April 6th, **Chris Roby/Natalie Moorman will attend**
- **Kate Thompson (BCC secretary) is terminally ill, we have agreed to recognize her for her contributions, send her get well wishes. Natalie motioned \$25 , Peggy 2nd. Joann/Kountry Store will also provide a gas card certificate.**
- Update on Main street beautification, smoking poles, trash receptacles, bike racks
Details attached were discussed. Agreement to notify businesses on mainstreet. Casey Illingsworth will assist with printing/distribution. We will reach back out to City Council. No grant writing at this time. We will review details again on May 3rd(next meeting)

New business-

- Welcome to our new businesses – Carissa Hansen – Swept Away Cleaning Services and Bed & Breakfast between here and Newton near Wittenburg Church (Deb Chance owner)
- Welcome bags committee update. Committee is making 10 additional bags for distribution
- Update on City Website – Baxter Chamber link – Check out new city link <https://www.baxter-iowa.com/business-directory>
 - Calendar dates
 - Prior minutes
 - Business listings
- Open Grants
 - Jasper Community Foundation annual grant cycle is active until 4/20.
 - Central Business District building owners can get up to \$10,000 from JEDCO for exterior building facade improvements.
- Ideas for other initiatives:
 - Mailing to area businesses- ideas were presented about a mailing and sending to area businesses. Peggy will review and get back to us.
 - Researching grants- not discussed
 - Seeking additional members/participation not discussed
 - Fundraiser ideas not discussed
 - Updating the Business listing - discussed when we spoke of Baxter Website
 - Seeking additional calendar events- discussed when we spoke of Baxter Website
 - Seeking ideas to create business engagement (ex. seasonal events) not discussed
- Next meeting Tuesday, May 3rd at The Hideout

Note: meetings have been placed on the calendar/city website. Minutes are also available.