

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by President, April Hayes, at Southern Boone Administration Building.

Board Members Present: April Hayes (President), Jesse Wheadon (Vice President), Claire Linzie (Treasurer), Letitia Denhartog, Izzy Smith, Ken Bishop, Virigina Steiger, Jacob Garret, Melissa Karotka (past president)

Absent: Fayrn Griffin (Secretary)

Quorum: Yes

Welcome – Introduction of Guests

No Guests

Additions to Agenda

No Additions.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the April meeting were presented Izzy and Letitia made a motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved and amended by the board.

Treasurer's Report

The April 2024 report was presented:

Income \$924.98

Expenses: \$5,138.33 – Payroll, spotlight, ad's, business show case

Monthly End Bank Statement as of 4/29/2024 was \$45,401.25 and cash balance on hand as of 5/3/2024 was \$45,481.14.

Motion was made by Viriginia and Ken to approve the treasurer's report. The treasurer's report was approved by the board.

Committee Reports/New Chairpersons

Membership/Ambassadors: Jacob Garrett

The Board has been working with Tom Trabue. At the last meeting on April 29th, we finalized our new Mission Statement and structuring new committees, i.e. Government affairs committee. We will share the Mission to the membership as well as new words to include like engage, inspire, we want to build a brand as we grow.

Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings

- Alfa Martial Arts, date to come
- Annual showcase event, tonight

Working to restructure how the Ribbon cuttings go. Want to make sure board members are able to attend. Also, as the chamber we will have more of a platform for speaking as well as the new business.

Special Events: Tracy Banning

Update given by April. Business Showcase and Job Fair kicking off at 5:30 tonight at the Optimist. We will be presenting the Eagle award and the Business of the year award. Amanda Quick is the speaker and there will be appetizers, and music. Venders can start setting up at 2:00 today, the Optimist building will open up tomorrow morning at 7am. and the showcase starts at 9am and ends at 3pm followed by a happy hour with appetizers for venders during the break down. There will be breakfast, lunch and snacks provided. At 9am on Friday morning, about 30 kids from the high school will attend to obtain information on future careers with our local businesses. The event is free to the public so come on out! Gift baskets will be given out to attendees as well as venders!

Website & Newsletter: Faryn Griffin

Update given by April. Reiterating to send Faryn any information that you would like to see in the newsletter.

Budget & Finance: Claire Linzie

Reached back out to Gerding, Korte, and Chitwood about an audit. The base price is \$5,000 and depending on how many accounts and how many transactions we do, the price will increase. A financial review will cost less, but they need our info to get an accurate quote. Jacob asked Lisa to give us some resources for more auditors that other Chambers our size are working with. Also looking for guidance on how to work within the \$50,000 income limit for tax purposes and how to grow the chamber and be profitable. Lisa will reach out to her connections to nonprofit financials, to give guidance.

City of Ashland Report: Kyle Michael

Kyle was absent from today's meeting. Izzy heard of a MODOT sidewalk project that will be affecting the ABCs planter project.

SBEDC: Kyle Michael

Virginia gave a report in Kyles absents. O'Reilly has started framing , and some land is being cleared down the road from Carquest for a possible commercial space.

ABC: Izzy Smith

Kentucky derby event was a good event with less attendees as hoped but was still profitable. Starting to look towards the July 4th parade. Info will go out on social media if anyone wants to get involved.

Hosting the community fireworks again this year on July 21st, and will be calling on local businesses for sponsorship.

REDI: Lisa Driskell

REDI will be receiving an Accreditation award. They had an onsite accreditation review to make sure the info they share is accurate. They are a part of the International Economic Development Council. There are 84 accredited sites worldwide across 5000 different economic development

organizations.

Grateful for the strong Southern Boone Support during their meetings. Dr. Roth spoke about education in our community. Izzy was there to represent the Chamber and our ability to interface with different organizations. Lona Trammell spoke to her lifelong Southern Boone residency as well as how we work with utilities. With those individuals' help, REDI was able to highlight the great things that are happening in our community and received a strong recommendation to continue our accreditation.

At the monthly board meeting yesterday, Matt Boyce from the Economic Development Council was able to attend to keep abreast of what REDI is doing and how they can support each other. The meeting yesterday was a work session. They are working on their strategic plan. They took info from different groups to help with how to move forward.

The news links they send out are how to get engaged if you were not able to attend the meetings. They come out twice a month as an electronic newsletter.

The next mixer will be on June 27th from 4-6 at the Pierpont General Store. There will be music and they will be receiving their accreditation award. A big crowd would be appreciated!

Lisa wanted us to know that Southern Boone is at the top of her mind on a regular basis!

Virginia brought to light that the fee for the event at Eagle Knoll was rolled into the Chambers membership to REDI, so we are full members. Izzy asked about our participation at the monthly meetings. REDI would love to have as many folks from the Chamber to attend the meetings as possible.

Unfinished Business

Jason Renolds and April Hayes presented two \$500 scholarships to two seniors, Allie Johnson and Andrew Pridemore out of five individuals that were interviewed. Jason Renolds, Dr. Tim Roth and April Hayes discussed increasing the scholarships given next year to include one more individual or increasing the amount given.

New Business

Membership advertising rules and requirements. Jacob asked how we, the chamber, can benefit your business and how we can help you. Ranken would like to advertise but feels that having to pay for advertisements can be problematic. A suggestion to make the newsletter with less graphics. Some of our members are not able to open the letter due to spam walls.

Make info easy for members to access.

SoBoCo Business Networking, they are not chamber members but would like to advertise on our newsletter and social media. A lot of members said that we shouldn't advertise unless they wanted to become a member.

Business prospects:

None

Other Announcements:

None

Adjourn

Motion was made by Clair and Izzy adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:49 a.m.

Next Board Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for June 13th, 2024 at 8:00 am at Central Office.