

Minutes from EBA meeting held September 21, 2023

Meeting called to order at 8:00 am by Jaimie McFarlin, President.

11 members in attendance, including 3 Board members:

Jaimie McFarlin (Store Next Door/ Etc. Shop), Erin Ziegenhorn (CEFCU), Cindy O'Neill (Eureka Public Library), Sam Sendra (Heartland Bank) and new Assistant Manager, Beth Miller (Historical Society), Linda Logan (City of Eureka), Eric Lind (City of Eureka), Deanna Davidson (NorthShore Boat and Board), Emily (Faire Coffee), Nancy Alridge (Kiwanis)

April minutes– motion to approve by Beth Miller, seconded by Sam Sendra.

Treasurer report: *(can refer to Treasurer's account detail sheet-attached)*

Statements ending 8/31/23:

Ending balances-

General Fund: \$7,284.67

New Gift Checks: \$12,218.66 -11 businesses saw gift checks last month

Old Gift Checks: \$10,795.74- no change

Approved by: Nancy Alridge second: Linda Logan

EBA T-shirt Sales-

JC Screenprinting has EBA shirts, will be doing sales 2x a year for 6 weeks each.

Holiday shirts coming soon!!!

Guest Speaker-

No one this month

Committee Reports:

We are looking for Committee heads and members for events. Please help us continue bringing these great events to Eureka!

Spring Market Day: Father's Day weekend, 3rd Saturday in June

4th of July parade: morning of the 4th

Central IL BBQ Throwdown- July

Experience Eureka: September 8 430-630pm-254 tickets sold out of a possible 300, not bad for the Friday after a Holiday with a home football game and Rotary pork chop sale going on at the same time or closely following. Not a sell out like years past, but later getting the info out to the public this year. We appreciate everyone who came out and those that participated. We had 15 members participate and received good feedback from members and the public. We also sponsored Touch A Truck at Davenport's parking lot and that went over very well. We had first responders and their vehicles as well as a tractor from Blunier/Woodford County Farm Bureau. The kids loved it and it was a nice addition to the Experience.

We did discuss expanding the hours back to 2.5-3 hours for the Experience. We received feedback that it just wasn't long enough to get everywhere. We also understand that a lot of businesses are staying open longer so we would like to see how people feel about that and what hours they'd like to see. We will be sending out a survey to ask for additional thoughts on Experience and how we can better it next year. We would really love to expand to our at home businesses or those service businesses (concrete, builders, etc.) that may not have a store front or are in Goodfield and Congerville and have them set up at City Hall or another area where they can present their businesses as well.

Fall Pumpkin Giveaway- something we'd still like to get off the ground for future years/could be seeds in the spring with a pumpkin judging contest and/or partnering with a local pumpkin farmer for a giveaway. Since, of course, we used to be the Pumpkin Capital of the World 😊

Holiday Stroll/Small Business Saturday: last Saturday in November, 11/25.

Contract for carriage ride done, Santa and Mrs. Claus coming and we are ready for another fun afternoon at the Library. If you are a business and will be running specials for SBS please let us know!

Talked about a few ideas for next year in Board meeting...details coming.

New Business Committee-working on welcoming a few new businesses and doing a "ribbon cutting"/welcome! We would love to be apart of anniversaries, milestones, etc. as well.

We need Committee members. If you have ideas, thoughts, criticism, anything- please consider coming to meetings and being a part of a committee. Talk to us and help us with events and help us grow what we have in Eureka.

New Business:

Business updates:

Deanna Davidson (NorthShore Boat and Board)-

Rentals will be available as long as weather holds out or until end of October.

Cindy O'Neill (Eureka Public Library)-

Saturday (9/23) Sam Leman is hosting a Car Seat Safety event. The library will have story time for the kids while the car seats are being checked. 10-1p

Tuesday Sept 26 at 6p they are hosting a program on the Lighthouses of Michigan and the Great Lakes. Contact them to register. Friends of the Library Road Rally is happening Sat. Oct 28, 12:30-2 pm. They are hoping for a few businesses to compete for a business trophy. Flyer is attached with more information.

Jaimie McFarlin (Store Next Door/Etc. Shop) -

Oct 26, the Christmas shop will open. They will be closed Oct 23-25 to prepare.

Linda Logan (City)-

Charters of Freedom Veterans Wall is currently being finished up at the Lake. Anticipate December will be finished. Spring for opening ceremony.

Eric Lind (City)-

Eureka is joining a County wide initiative to become a Dementia friendly city. They are looking for volunteers from the business sector to sit on the committee.

Beth Miller (Historical Society)-

Woodford County Schools book ready to go. Do you or someone you know have a picture of the old Davenport school? If so, the Society would like to see it. Please contact them.

Sam Sendra (Heartland Bank)-

New Assistant Manager was introduced. They are also hiring for full time if you know someone interested. New checking account launched, see flyer for details.

Erin (CEFCU)-

New Sales Op, Kwesi, at the office, stop in and say hi! Also, running a credit card promotion until Oct 7, come and take advantage of our new cash back card with 1.99% for the first year! Standard rates apply after that. A Certificate special is coming on Oct 8!

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 am. Motioned by Deanna Davidson, seconded by Beth Miller.