

## Minutes from EBA meeting held February 15, 2024

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

11 members in attendance, including 4 Board members:

Jaimie McFarlin (Store Next Door/ Etc. Shop), Erin Ziegenhorn (CEFCU), Cindy O'Neill (Eureka Public Library), Tiffany Handrich (Third Stitch), Beth Miller (Historical Society), Linda Logan (City of Eureka), Nancy Aldridge (Kiwanis), Meg Rocke (Heartland Fiber), Deanna Davidson (NorthShore Boat and Board/College), Janet Wilkins (Hearthouse), Natalie Weer (Weer Farms)

December minutes (No Jan minutes)– motion to approve by Deanna Davidson, seconded by Beth Miller.

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

Statements ending 1/31/2024: both December and January are included in email.

### **Ending balances-**

**General Fund:** \$5,455.74

**New Gift Checks:** \$16,113.66 -\$410.00 in gift checks sold (credit), \$1,865.00 in debits (13+ businesses)

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

All gift checks should be being used as payment to the business for goods and services. Deposits to organizations not selling anything (goods and services) or to personal accounts are not allowed. They can be used for membership fees but cannot be purchased or used for anything other than fees, goods and services. If you have questions, please ask. We want this program to be used to help our local economy and businesses. We will add a statement indicating checks are not to be cashed/direct deposited to new checks printed in 2024.

Financial Report approval motioned by: Nancy Aldridge; second by Linda Logan.

### **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:** June 15th

**4<sup>th</sup> of July parade:** July 4th

Central IL BBQ Throwdown- July

**Experience Eureka:** September 6th

**Fall Pumpkin Giveaway-** still pending event

**Holiday Stroll/Small Business Saturday:** November 30th

Talked about a few ideas for next year/future years in Board meeting...details coming as things get sorted out. The Events Committee has two tall heaters we could borrow.

**New Business Committee-** We would love to be a part 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.

### **Current Business:**

Membership Drive is happening now, please get your dues in for 2024!

Yard signs and clings available at the Library if you need them. Contact Cindy or the EBA email and we will have them ready for you.

EBA Membership Night-good networking and socializing from those that came. Some good ideas as well. We are hoping to have something else in the coming months and a vendor fair was mentioned for at home businesses. If you are an at home business or any business that would like to participate in a vendor fair, please let us know. We are wanting to do something but would need to know if its feasible for everyone to organize.

Gift Check program-it was brought up about the expiration dates on the checks and if there is any wiggle room for checks misplaced. The Board discussed and it was decided to not have any type of extension on the 1-year expiration. 1 year is a good time frame to use the checks are our local businesses and gives people plenty of time to use them.

### **New Business:**

EBA Member Spotlight- if you're interested, please contact us. We would love to spotlight your business. We would like to know the history and any interesting things so we can help promote it.

Market Day is coming up in June, stay tuned for information.

2024 Budget approval –  
Motioned Janet, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Deanna- approved

Old Gift Check account/reserve account-  
Deanna brought up having the reserve account at certain threshold at all times, discuss was had and agreed upon for \$5k to be threshold.  
Motion – Deanna, 2<sup>nd</sup> Beth - approved

### **Business updates:**

#### **Erin (CEFCU)-**

Credit Card promotion going on now.

#### **Tiffany Handrich (Third Stitch)-**

Looking to have a small business set up outside on Saturdays when the weather starts turning nice. No fee, just having another business on rotation on Saturdays to help and promote their business! Contact Tiffany for information!

#### **Cindy (Eureka Public Library)-**

Winter Reading Program in full swing. Started a book club at Maple Lawn. Started an adult storytelling event with Maple Lawn, AC Home and at the Library. Monday (19<sup>th</sup>) there is a Genealogy basics class at 6pm. Tuesday (20<sup>th</sup>), the author from the Bridgerton series will be discussing her books as part of the Illinois Presents event. This will be available via Zoom as well, but you need to register to participate.

#### **Jaimie (Et Cetera/Store Next Door)-**

Easter items are coming soon, Valentine's was popular. Will be closed Easter weekend.

**Nancy (Kiwanis)-**

Are currently doing ink recycling, drop offs are around the area, see flyer attached for details. This helps them purchase paper for donation to charities and businesses.

**Beth (Historical Society):**

Thankful for 50<sup>th</sup> celebration. Have reprints of Carol Anderson's book and the Eureka Homes book as well if interested.

**Linda (City of Eureka):**

Charters of Freedom getting closer to completion, eyeing July 4<sup>th</sup>. Paver purchase still available. Getting bids for Memorial Garden.

**Natalie (Weer Farms)-**

Working on seeds for new planting season, will have more to offer with larger plots for flowers-3x increase! Got some sheep, to have babies in April!

**Meg (Heartland Fiber)-**

Heartland Fiber has not moved into new building yet (hopefully end of year) but SS Underground is there now.

**Deanna (NorthShore and College)-**

Eyeing beginning of March for boat and board rental to start. Call ahead and make an appt. College is gearing up for Spring Break in March. Hannah's Menu 309 is coming soon, stay tuned!

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 am.