

Albany Area Chamber of Commerce
Minutes General Membership Meeting submitted by Maria Hughes
September 20, 2017 at Albany Bowling Center

Members present: Ross Voit, Amy Devos, Cassie Nentl, Gary Winkels, Lindsey Clancy, Ozzie, Tim Jopp, Aaron Smith, Steve Olson, Ben Dalsing, Paul Tomczik and Maria Hughes.

Meeting called to order by Chamber President – Maria Hughes. Welcome from Lynn to the guests, followed by introductions of members present.

Minutes from May 17, 2017 - Chamber minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer Report –Aaron gave report, new member - West Central Sanitation otherwise it was a quiet month. If you have questions on the report, please contact Aaron.

Albany Buck Report – Lynn Brutger absent- no buck report.

Guest Speakers – *Joan Scherping, Community Technology Center. They had a second store open in St Joe September 1st. They provide a full range of residential and business services including networking services, computer sales and services, home network and theatre services, wireless technology support and more. If you have a problem or need for anything technology related give them a call!*

Old Business

RTP Hamburger Stand: Thank you to all of our volunteers! We really appreciate you help and support of this fundraising event for the chamber. Still waiting on final totals but it looks like we made about \$1000!!!

New Teachers Bags: New teacher bags went out about 30 new teachers. Thank you to CMCU for collecting the donations and thank you to all of the local businesses that contributed items. The teachers really seem to enjoy and appreciate the bags.

New Business

Santa Day: hoping to have the first Santa Day committee meeting first week in October. Still looking for a couple volunteers. Please let Maria know if you are interested in helping out.

Welcome New Board Member: Welcome Kelly Tschida from

October Guest Speaker: Megan Hollenhort from Gaslight Creative out of St Cloud will be joining us as our guest speaker to talk about all things Social Media and how you can use it for your business. Please let me know if you have any specific questions for her and I will pass them along before the meeting and she will make sure to address them.

Standing Report

Albany Area Schools/Community Education – Cassie Nentl: new school year is going very smoothly. There are some changes with the entrances for students due to construction. Enrollment is up, expected about 1730 students and enrollment is now 1768. Very large kindergarten class about 170 kids; hired additional teachers to keep class size down. BECC to open in January. BEAT to open March. Community Education's main focus right now is their new space and organizing the program with the new changes.

City of Albany – No Update

Open Floor: Pastor Steve discussed Workforce housing. We have a shortage of housing in Albany. He just wanted to make everyone aware and start discussion on any possible ideas or solutions. Right now he is actively helping 5 families look for housing in Albany.

Prize winner: Tim Jopp