

Meeting Minutes

Date: 9/10/2025

Meeting Start: 6:33 PM

Attendance:

- Executive Director: Candice Blackstone-Larson
- Board Members: David Wood, Melinda Britton, Luke Guindon, Julie Foster-Lindquist, Susan Bertram, Tom Dummer, Ann Fisher, Lee Ossenheimer
- Dick Pierson joined remotely
- Absent: Louise Anderson
- Approval of Previous Minutes
 - Melinda Britton moves to approve the previous minutes
 - **Seconded by: Lee Ossenheimer**
 - **All in favor**

Financial Reports

- Bell Financial
 - \$112,805.24 +\$1,358.60 since August, +\$7,795.97 YTD
- Business Checking
 - \$142,626.09
- Grant Business Checking
 - \$19,458.09
- Business Money Market
 - \$105,764.92
- 12 month CD for \$100,000 at Incredible Bank
 - \$101,868.23 +\$1,868.23
- **Treasurer's Financial Report Approval**
 - **Ann Fisher moves to approve the Treasurer's Report, subject to audit**
 - **Seconded by: Lee Ossenheimer**
 - **All in favor**

Old Business

- Trailer licensing update
 - Lee Ossenheimer will likely complete this process in the next week or so
- Trailer Fundraising
 - Nate Bett is helping to come up with marketing mock-up
 - The goal is to complete this and have it ready for fundraising by the time the annual meeting takes place
- Conflict of Interest Discussion/Policy update
 - David Wood and Ann Fisher are still working on this
- Bylaw discussion
 - There was a vote to update the bylaws to reflect changes made to increase the number of board positions from up to 10 directors to 11 directors. There was also an update to allow up to 2 remote directors, with a change from 1 remote director
 - **E-vote was held to approve changes to the bylaws on August 30th**
 - **All were in favor**
 - Changes to the bylaws for board member nomination process are needed
 - Bylaws currently specify nominations should go to the membership committee before going to the board. The bylaws should be updated to

allow the board member candidates to be submitted directly to the board by the Executive Director. While there are board members on the Membership Committee, there are also some people on the Membership Committee that are not board members

New Business

- Office merchandise
 - There is \$1300 budgeted for the year and we have currently spent \$661
 - Julie Foster-Lindquist and Sue Bertram report that they would like to order new merchandise to sell
 - We will try offering some exclusive preorders for members as some of the merch becomes available
 - Merch sold at the festival from the store brought in about \$2,200 that they would like to use toward new merchandise
 - **Sue Bertram moves to approve \$3000 for office merchandise**
 - **Seconded by: Julie Foster-Lindquist**
 - **All in favor**
- Get Fresh Communication
 - Candice Blackstone-Larson would like the approval to continue working with Get Fresh at the same rate as the past year
 - **Ann Fisher moves to approve continuing services with Get Fresh Communication at the same rate as the previous year**
 - **Seconded by: David Wood**
 - **All in favor**
- 990 approval for 2024
 - **Ann Fisher moves to approve the 990 for 2024**
 - **Seconded by: Melinda Britton**
 - **All in favor**
- Marquette Food Co-op raffle request
 - **Includes 2 festival tickets for their raffle for co-op month**
 - **Sue Bertram moves to approve providing 2 festival tickets to the Marquette Food Co-Op raffle**
 - **Seconded by: Lee Ossenheimer**
 - **All in favor**
- ABO tents for 2026 Festival
 - Paying the deposit ahead of time or the entire bill gets HMC a 12% discount
 - Three-year contract to avoid pricing increases
 - **Ann Fisher moves to authorize the executive director to make the full payment of ABO contract and initiate the new three-year contract**
 - **Seconded by: Lee Ossenheimer**
 - **All in favor**
- Notice: October meeting will include a presentation from Jesse Bell regarding our investments

Festival

- Rise Up Singing Workshop Leader Communication
 - Resolved
- Festival 1-Yr Ban Proposal

- Candice Blackstone-Larson has drafted a 1 year ban policy
- Planning to check with legal counsel before finalizing and enacting policy that is currently drafted
- Thursday Night Issues
 - Fees - the site VS units VS household
 - There was some feedback expressing dissatisfaction with the way Thursday night camping payments were structured
 - Thursday night camping fees were originally intended years ago to be a fundraiser for the organization and certainly cover the costs involved of renting out Tourist Park for Thursday night
 - **Julie Foster-Lindquist moves to maintain the 2025 fees and requirement of one unit/structure per household on a shared site**
 - **Seconded by:Ann**
 - **All in favor**
 - Thursday Night camping policy
 - The intention is to create a clear policy for consistency for all people camping on Thursday night and to communicate it clearly with all attendees
 - 1 Household and 1 structure per camping permit allowed on Thursday with the intention of having space available to share with campers who will arrive on Friday
 - **Vote to approve flow chart of “Festival Early Entry Decision Tree” is tabled for the board meeting next month**
- First Aid
 - Lee Ossenheimer reports that the medical area tent is being returned via USPS by the 2025 area coordinator
- **CLOSED SESSION AT 8:06pm to discuss personnel issues**
- **RETURNED FROM CLOSED SESSION AT 8:16pm**
- **Liability discussion - tabled for board meeting next month**

Committee Reports

- Membership Committee report
 - Membership level modifications
 - **Melinda Britton moves to approve proposed 2026 membership level modifications**
 - **Seconded by: Ann Fisher**
 - **All in favor**
- Fundraising
 - No report
- Music Selection Committee
 - No report
- Events committee
 - Sue Bertram reports that Hiawatha Music Co-Op will host Bayou Chocolat during Music on Third on September 18th

Executive Director Report

- Candice Blackstone-Larson reports that the Festival recap meeting was a success

- Looking to collect more data in the future on monitor shifts and schedules across different areas

Next Board Mtg – October 8, 2025

Motion to Adjourn Meeting

- **Motion by: Ann Fisher**
 - **Seconded by: David Wood**
- All in favor**

Meeting Ended: 8:37 pm