



Heart of Illinois Hospitality Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 10, 2018
Host: Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center

Present: Dan Kouri-Lariat Steakhouse, Josh Burnett – Jim Maloof, Rick Swan – East Peoria Chamber of Commerce, Jess McMullin & Rik Edgar-Peoria Civic Center, Stephanie Winter -Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center, Ron Panek – Eurest, John Beintema-Ameren Illinois/Leidos, Carl Bunker, Katie Hart & Judy Martin -R&B Productions, Inc.

Presidents Report: Dan Kouri welcomed everyone to the meeting; Dan thanked Stephanie with Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center for hosting the meeting. Dan wanted to pass along that a fellow member of the Association, Paul Jacob, passed away. He extended his sympathy to his family and the Association will be sending a floral arrangement to the visitation.

Approval of August 28, 2018 Minutes: Dan Kouri presented the August 28, 2018 Meeting Minutes. Rik Swan motioned for approval of the minutes. Josh Burnett seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Josh Burnett reported the treasurer's for the month of August 2018. Josh reported the register showed standard in and out of funds mainly from the Golf Outing's income and expenses. Josh reviewed the checking account register noting there was a balance of \$20,856.69 in the account. Josh also reported there was currently \$6,996.41 in the CD for a total of \$27,853.10. Rick Swan motioned for approval of the Treasurer's report and Rik Edgar seconded the motion and the report was unanimously approved.

Standing Reports:

Peoria Civic Center- Jess McMullin reviewed the supplied PCC update as of 10.10.2018. Jess stated that the Peoria Civic Center is into their "busy" season with Bradley basketball & Rivermen games. The Civic center also has upcoming entertainment in the arena and theater. Jess reported there has been a convention every weekend in October. Jess reported that all the up-coming concerts and venues are sold out. Jess reported that the Broadway tour is doing well and Lion King has been quite a success. Rik Edgar stated there will be five new show announcements released by the end of the month.

PACVB: Don Welch was unable to attend the meeting, no report given.

IHLA: There was no representative at the meeting, no report given.

IRA: Mike Murphy was unable to attend the meeting, no report given.

HOIHA Membership: Carl Bunker reported 2019 Membership will be billed out on November 1st which will provide the hospitality association with \$11,997.00 of income.

Committee Reports:

Golf Outing: Carl Bunker reported that the golf outing was a success with an increase of golfers and sponsorships this year. Carl will provide an updated budget when all the outstanding invoices are paid. The hospitality association splits the \$11,727.16 income (50/50) with the Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, after all income is received.

Peoria Rivermen Night: Carl Bunker reported the hospitality association will again be sponsoring the Night Out with the Peoria Riverman on Friday, November 2nd which is the season home opener. Carl stated that this is a great family event and a wonderful opportunity for companies to purchase tickets for employees. Carl stated that the tickets are still available until Friday, October 21st.

Annual Holiday Meeting & Reception: Carl reported that our next board meeting will be Wednesday, November 14th from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. which will include the Holiday Reception. To make the event extra special our members contribute the food, beverages and/or door prizes.

Winterfest 2019: Carl reported that the Winterfest will be February 4, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette. Carl stated that the next planning meeting will be October 17, 2018. The committee is working on a Cruise Ship themed event.

Old Business:

Dan Kouri reported on the status of the Stormwater Utility Fee. Dan stated he contacted Bob Scott from Bradley University's Economics' Department to see if they would conduct an economic study. The research will find out if collecting the funds will help or hurt the City of Peoria. Dan stated that Bradley will get back ahold of him to let him know if they would like to proceed. Dan reported that if this economic study is done, it can show the city officials how much this utility fee will impact the community and possibly change the fees.

New Business:

Dan Kouri welcomed Mary Pille from the Junior Achievement Career Spark. Mary explained that Career Spark exposes 8th graders to the region's most critical careers in Hospitality, Management, Athletics and Tourism. Mary stated that this year's event is held on October 23rd & 24th at the Peoria Civic Center and there will be over 4,000 8th graders in attendance over the two days. Mary was seeking volunteers to man the "Hospitality Zone" to implement an interactive activity or "competition" to display some skills needed to work in the hospitality industry. If there is no interest, the hospitality field will not be represented. Carl Bunker will reach out to Chef Charles Robinson from ICC Culinary School to see if he or his students would be available.

With no further discussion, Rick Swan motioned for the meeting to adjourn and John Beintema seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Martin

HOIHA Association Management