

Washburn Life
(Washburn Area Improvement Association)
(Official)
Meeting Minutes
November 12th, 2024

Location: Washburn City Hall

Board Members Present: Donna Sommer/ Rhonda Johnson/ Rashel Crowell/ Mark Lelm/ Richard Perkerewicz/ Rachel Retterath/ Alyson Teigen

Board Members Absent: Staci Berube(e)

Others Present: Janell Herberlie/Tana Larsen/ Melinda Padilla Lynch/Josh Rust

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by President Rashel Crowell.

- 1) **Secretary Report:** Minutes from the November 12th meeting. (Rashel made a motion to approve the minutes as written, 2nd by Rachel) **Approved.**
- 2) **Treasurer's Report:** Donna went over the report as of November 12th. (Rhonda made a motion to approve the financial report, 2nd by Mark) **Approved.**
- 3) **Old Business:**
 - a) **Candy Caravan (Oct 31):** Rashel gave an update of the event. Discussion. It was a great turnout with nice weather. (Approx 300 kids/adults).
 - b) **Santa Day (Dec 7):** Rhonda gave an update on the event planning so far. There will be a committee meeting Nov 13th.
 - c) **Washburn Buck Promo (Small Business Saturday):** Rhonda went over and explained the event. The event will start Nov. 30 and end when all the "bucks" have been sold (\$6,000). (Mark made a motion to have the "Bucks" only spent at Washburn Businesses, 2nd by Rachel) **Approved.**
 - d) **Small Business Saturday Vendor/Craft Show:** Rhonda gave on update on the event. There are 30 vendors/crafters signed up. Discussion.
 - e) **Washburn Life Grant (Sarah Erickson):** Rhonda has been in contact with Sarah. Sarah is wondering when she will be receiving the grant funds. Discussion. (Rashel made a motion to table this discussion until the next meeting, 2nd by Mark). **Approved.**
Rhonda and Donna will meet to review the grant and talk to Sarah.
- 4) **New Business:**
 - a) **Speaker: Melinda Padilla Lynch:** Melinda gave a presentation on community development and engagement benefits in Washburn. She also talked about grants and financial programs available.

- b) **Board Position Re-elections:** Donna went over the board terms and what is written in the by-laws. Discussion on the opened board position. The nominating committee (Rashel, Donna & Mark) will meet after the meeting to discuss the candidates for the position and bring the information to the next meeting.

- c) **2024 year-end planning:** Donna led the discussion on what needs to be done before the end of the year (budget, membership benefits, etc.). A Year-End Planning committee was formed. It will be Rashel, Donna and Richard.

- d) **Chat GPT presentation:** Rashel gave a short presentation on the A.I. (artificial intelligence) program Chat GTP. She is willing to do another session for those interested.

Next Meeting: December 10th at 12 pm at **Washburn City Hall**

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 1:13 pm by President Rashel.

Rhonda Johnson

Minutes submitted 11/12/2024.