



Minutes of the Wednesday, January 8, 2020 Meeting

Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce

Persons in attendance:

Marilyn Ailes, Shannon Alexander, Alan Silverman, Jessica Steelman, Dirk Lynch, Margo Digan, Cynthia Dempster, Tim Whitaker, Paul Muhly, and Betty Martin were in attendance.

Call to Order

President Ailes called the meeting to order at 12:01pm.

Minutes of September 11, 2019 Meeting

Secretary Alexander made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion, seconded by President Ailes, passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report

President Ailes gave the treasurer's report. The position of Treasurer is still vacant.

Unfinished Business:

Social Media Marketing Strategy & GreenNews Report

Secretary Alexander provided a brief report.

Faith Community Engagement Update

Member Tim Whitaker indicated nothing to report.

Essay Contest Update

President Ailes reported that these are due February 14th and the prize is \$50 in each age group. Discussion ensued about techniques to help spread the word and solicit more interest/entries. President Ailes is to supply additional information for Secretary Alexander to reach out to Ted Shockley of ES First.

Litter Survey Update

President Ailes reported that it will be held in March.

Regional HHWC Program Update

Discussion about open times, items accepted, and additional needs ensued. During inclement (cold and/or precipitation) weather, it's important to have another building separate from the storage HHW building. Member Betty Martin is to contact the Boy Scouts about a potential community service construction project. **President Ailes made a motion to supply up to \$2,000.00 towards a building for staff use and emergency equipment storage. The motion, seconded by Vice President Ailes, carried unanimously.**

County BOS Presentations

Secretary Alexander to follow up and confirm dates. Accomack is thought to be in February and Northampton in March.

OOOCR Events

None are currently scheduled.

New Business:

Grants Development

Jessica Steelman provided an update about the Eastern Shore of Virginia Community Foundation application process and ideas for an application. An initial pre-application is required and more guidance from the members is needed to develop this.

Member Margo Digan made a motion to submit the draft letter to the Community Foundation as the pre-application. The motion, seconded by Member Terry Ewell, carried unanimously.

Legislation

Secretary Alexander and Jessica Steelman presented information about several bills in the current General Assembly.

Secretary Alexander made a motion to draft a letter to our legislators in the Virginia General Assembly opposing HB302, which would eliminate part of the 'Litter Tax'. The motion, seconded by Vice President Silverman, carried unanimously.

Upon further discussion concerning other bills,

Vice President Silverman made a motion to include in the letter to legislators support for the plastic bag bills, but adding language indicating that the Waste Watchers of the Eastern Shore of Virginia favor a more comprehensive approach to litter and waste management, specifically with regards to polystyrene products. The motion, seconded by Member Muhly, carried unanimously.

New Meeting Time/Location Confirmation

Discussion ensued about changing the time/location of the meetings in an attempt to solicit higher attendance. It was agreed that the February 12th meeting will be at 5:30pm at the Sage Diner in Onley. President Ailes is to call Sage to reserve the space.

Other Items

Sherriff's Office

Discussion about requesting a meeting with the Sherriff for each County ensued. Member Dirk Lynch, President Ailes, Secretary Alexander, Jessica Steelman (and Members Margo Digan and Terry Ewell if needed) agreed to attend/participate in such a meeting. Member Paul Muhly reminded Members about the Cover Your Load campaign and indicated that should be discussed during the meetings with the Sherriff's Offices.

The next meeting will be held on February 12th at 5:30pm at the Sage Diner in Onley.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:46pm.