



**Hawkinsville-Pulaski Chamber of Commerce  
Board Meeting Minutes  
February 3, 2023**

**Present: Donna Clark, Bobbie Clemons, Jessica Davies, Mark Caruso, Sylandi Brown, Cami Neisler, Robert Herman, Tyler Bryant, Tiffany Jolly, Daniel Mullis, and Michael Dupree**

**Absent: Kristin Slayton and Tonya Boyd**

**I. Call to Order**

Robert Herman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone at 8:19 am. Mark Caruso said a prayer. Robert called the meeting to order.

**II. Minutes**

Tyler Bryant presented the January 2023 minutes and they were reviewed by the board. Bobbie Clemons made a motion to accept the minutes, Sylandi Brown seconded the motion. There was no other discussion and none opposed.

**III. Revised 2023 Budget**

A revised version of the 2023 budget was presented by Tyler Bryant. This revised budget included Sam Sampson as a W2 employee and the \$10 Business After Hours tickets. There was no vote on this as we voted on this in January.

**IV. Financials**

Tyler presented the January 2023 financials to the board for review. The financials were reviewed and discussed. Jessica Davies made a motion to accept the minutes, Michael Dupree seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

**V. Revision to Tyler's Title Proposal**

Robert Herman made a proposal to change Tyler's formal title to President & CEO of the Chamber to mirror surrounding boards. Cami Neisler made a motion

to accept this proposal, Sylandi Brown seconded this motion. Passed unanimously.

**VI. Chamber By Laws Review & Revisions**

Tyler Bryant opened the floor for reviews and revisions of the by laws. Robert Herman proposed that our board adds a nepotism law that mirrors Perry Chamber's nepotism law. He passed around a typed version of their nepotism section in their by-laws and passed it around for everyone to review. Jessica Davies made a motion to add this exact nepotism law to our by-laws, Daniel Mullis seconded the motion. The nepotism motion shall be added under Article III. Mark Caruso made a motion to add a behavior by-law reading "Behavior of Board Members: it shall be the duty of the members of this board to honorably take care of the duties of the Board while in times of meeting. Board members shall look to the furtherance of the board and its constituents first, and personal business second while in session." To the by-laws Article III: Board of Directors. Cami Neisler seconded this motion. Mark Caruso made another motion to add a by-law reading "No elected officials within the Pulaski County Government and City of Hawkinsville Government may serve on the board" to Article III, Qualifications of Directors. Tiffany Jolly seconded this motion (Sylandi Brown abstained from this vote.)

**VII. Chamber Report**

Tyler briefed the board on the chamber's current events and updates including Riverside Wine & Spirits serving as an alcohol sponsor for the chamber, meaning they will sell alcohol to us at cost in exchange for signage at events. He also updated the board on calendar changes included a Street Eats change and added movie nights: May 13, July 15, and October 14.

Tyler also updated the board on Peaches to Beaches, stating volunteers were needed and that we acquired four more vendors and one more food truck. He then updated the board on Street Eats and informed the board that all bands had been booked and vendors had been notified of the dates.

**VIII. Chamber Report: Upcoming Events**

- Ribbon Cutting: Bow Ty's & Buttons: February 3<sup>rd</sup> 11am 46 South Lumpkin Street
- News & Brews: Yummy Frozen Yogurt, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:45AM
- Ribbon Cutting: Domino's Pizza, February 9 at 11:30AM 50 Surrey Plaza
- Georgia Association of Convention & Visitor Bureaus Annual Conference- February 12-15<sup>th</sup> Albany, GA

- Ribbon Cutting: Taylor Regional Hospital ER, February 20 at 11AM
- Peaches to Beaches: March 10 & 11 from 8am-6pm

**IX. Movie Night Update**

Mark Caruso provided an update regarding movie nights. He stated that Broad Street Baptist Church will host three movie nights in partner with the Chamber. He advised the board that in order for the church to host the food must be provided free of cost. The movie nights at BSBC will be held in either the front parking lot/lawn or back parking lot. Planters First Bank is also considering sponsoring movie nights.

**X. New Business**

Tyler Bryant informed the board that the Rotary is now a Chamber member in exchange for his Rotary membership. The Chamber pays \$100 per term and Tyler promotes their events on the Chamber's social media pages. Bobbie Clemons shared information regarding the Middle Georgia Military Affairs Committee where she is the chair. She shared that they are looking for new members and that it is \$150 per year to join. Tyler opened the floor for other new business, there was no other new business.

**XI. Meeting Adjourned**

At 9:15 AM the meeting was adjourned by Robert Herman. A motion was made by Mark Caruso and it was seconded by Daniel Mullis.