



**Hawkinsville-Pulaski Chamber of Commerce
Board Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2023**

Present: Robert Herman, Tyler Bryant, Jessica Davies, Tiffany Jolly, Sylandi Brown, Daniel Mullis, Maisie Pilkinton, Mark Caruso, Bobbie Clemons, Cami Jones, Michael Dupree

Absent: Donna Clark, Kristin Slayton

I. Call to Order

Robert Herman called the meeting to order at 8:15am.

II. Minutes

Tyler Bryant presented the July 7, 2023 minutes. They were reviewed by the board. Bobbie Clemons made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Daniel Mullis seconded. Passed unanimously.

III. Financials

Tyler Bryant presented the July 2023 financials to the board for review. The financials were reviewed and discussed. Mark Caruso made a motion to accept the financials as presented, Sylandi Brown seconded. Passed unanimously.

IV. Chamber Report

As of July 31, 2023 the chamber has 181 members. Tyler Bryant gave a brief overview to the board of new members who have joined the chamber as well as the events hosted by the chamber in the month of July.

V. Chamber Report: Upcoming Events

- a. Joint Business After Hours with Perry Chamber – August 8, Southern Hills
- b. Street Easts on Saturday – Lumpkin Street, August 12, 4-8pm
- c. Ribbon Cutting: Serenity Adult Day Health – August 17, 11am
- d. Murder Mystery Play – August 23-27

VI. Events Evaluation Recommendation

The board took an events inventory and discussed events the chamber could release to other organizations, events the chamber should maintain hosting, and events to remove from the chamber's schedule entirely. Business After Hours, Lunch & Learn, Taste of the Town, RiverFest, and the Annual Meeting were mutually agreed upon by the board as events that serve the chamber's mission and hold value for the community and chamber members. Collectively, the Christmas Parade (date moved to November 26) and the Back to School Bash were tabled. The consensus on movie night was to pass the event to a different organization but have the chamber step in as a supportive role and promote the event as needed. Street Eats on Saturday was agreed upon by the board to change to two events per year, one being held in spring and one being held in fall. All News & Brews events do hold value; however, News & Brews will be hosted quarterly instead of monthly.

VII. Bylaws Amendments Proposal

The executive members of the board made a motion to amend the bylaws that state a board member can miss three consecutive meetings or five total in a calendar year without consequence to being able to miss only three meetings total for the calendar year – consecutive, or otherwise. Michael Dupree seconded. Passed unanimously. Amendments to elected officials has been tabled.

VIII. Tiered Dues Proposal Vs. Fair Share

Tyler Braynt proposed to the board to move each chamber member to a tiered structure. Michael Dupree made a motion to implement the new tiered system, Jessica Davies seconded. Passed unanimously.

IX. Board Nominations

With Kristin Slayton and Robert Herman having terms expiring December 31, 2023, the board will need to fill those vacancies. The board was asked to bring nominations forward. The board was also asked to think of Vice Chair nominations to discuss at the *September and October meetings.

X. New Members

- Mike Newman, State Farm Insurance
- Choice Insurance Services
- Food Lion
- Vaughn Forest Products, LLC.
- Sharp Tire & Auto

XI. New Business

With the Labor Day Holiday falling on the Monday after the scheduled Friday board meeting, alternative dates were presented to the board (August 31 or September 7). *Michael Dupree made a motion to move the meeting to August 31, 2023, Maisie Pilkinton seconded. Passed unanimously. Tyler Bryant proposed to the board that we have a board retreat hosted by Ms. Tammy Shepherd; she is a retired Chamber President & CEO who now has a consulting business. To have her come speak at the retreat, her rate is \$1,750 with a 25% initial payment. Michael Dupree made a motion to proceed with planning of the retreat with Tammy Shepherd with clarification of scheduling, Bobbie Clemons seconded. Passed unanimously.

XII. Meeting Adjourned

At 9:40am the meeting was adjourned by Robert Herman.