

Pendleton Business Association – January 2022 Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2022

Meeting was called to order by Julie Schnepf, PBA President.
All members and guests introduced themselves.

Meeting Minutes from the December 2021 meeting were approved with a motion from Mike Romack and second from Laura Shank.

Treasurer's Report – Mike Romack reported a balance of \$33,560 in the account. The group discussed invoices being mailed. Non-Profit scholarships are available for \$25, let an officer know if you would like to do this.

General Business

- Julie Schnepf suggested the PBA donate \$1000 to the Pendleton Fire Department for equipment being purchased. Motion to approve was made by Amy Turner and seconded by Mike Romack.
- New member Gordon Haywood discussed his scaffolding business. He can set up, tear down, haul away. Equipment available for interior and exterior.
- Make sure that emails are updated so you receive communications and update social media links. Either contact Christi Hughes or email pendletonbusinessassociation@gmail.com
- Committees needed for Events, Social/Networking/education and Ambassadors to do open houses, touches with business owners.
- We need an Event Coordinator for 2022.

Continued Business from December meeting

- Alliance with Main Street Pendleton
- It would be helpful to have comments from the Town Council, Town Manager, etc discussing the benefits of the alliance.
- Jack Wilson and Steve Schug were in attendance from Main Street Pendleton. The idea of Main Street was born from the idea that you strengthen the community from the inside out. In December 2012 Pendleton became a Main Street Community. A year ago Main Street Indiana reorganized and Pendleton was on the list to be unaccredited. The State reinstated with contingencies, including a paid staff person. Main Street recently expanded its coverage area from the downtown business district to also include the park. The proposed alliance between Main Street and the PBA doesn't dissolve either organization but strengthens both. Main Street is important for the Town of Pendleton from a grant perspective, being a Main Street community allows for more grant opportunities we would otherwise not qualify for. It will look stronger if Main Street is working with a Chamber vs business association.

- Why a Chamber? A chamber has more clout with large business than the PBA. Main Street is a 501c3. The PBA is a 501c6. The alliance would allow for some tax deductibility for donations.
- There are no costs associated with movement from the PBA to a Chamber. The PBA and Main Street would operate separately and would maintain separation.
- How does this benefit the PBA? The Town has verbally committed to help with housing a director. The tax status of Main Street. There is better name recognition and it is easier to attract new businesses as a Chamber.

The decision to do the alliance needs to be made by the end of February.

There is a motion from Mike Romack to make a final decision in the February meeting both the affiliation and/or the PBA becoming a chamber. There is a second from Laura Shank.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Turner, PBA secretary