

# O T T A W A

## VISITORS CENTER

Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 22, 2021

5:08 p.m.

**Present:** Chair: Matt Skelly, Vice Chair: Hank Wolf, Secretary: Caitlin Parker, Kevin Bressendorf, Mike Cage, Sean Hodge, Scott Struchen, and Executive Director: Curt Bedei, Chamber Director: Jeff Hettrick, City Representative: Dave Noble. **Absent:** Heather Johnson and Mary Beth LeSeure **Guests: N/A**

Subject	Discussion	Decision	Next Steps - Motion
Public Comments	N/A	N/A	N/A
City Report - Noble	Sears Hometown Store has moved to the Southtown Mall. Floor to Ceiling is moving to where Sears previously was. Old Century Bank Building will be Onized Credit Union. A financial brokerage firm is opening on Main Street. Gentry Nordstrom has purchased a building on LaSalle Street. Aussem Tours has purchased a building on Court Street. Chad Lucas will remodel a building and will move his insurance business to the old Pharmacy Stop. JBM Management Group is looking to rent out the old Beehive/Pink Chihuahua. Pilkington is building a tank storage area. Heritage Harbor is building new homes. Enterprise zone permits have been issued for over \$21 million worth of construction since the first of January. In total, 40-50 new businesses have registered to open in Ottawa.	N/A	N/A

Chamber Report - Hettrick	The Chamber has added new members including: Kayak Starved Rock Campground, Step By Step Daycare, Prime Lending, Alzheimer's Association, Surf Broadband, and Streator Onized Credit Union. The Chamber is hosting a social media photo contest in April. The Chamber is partnering to promote a family friendly event at Heritage Harbor in May with food vendors, crafts, a kite demonstration, and more. The Chamber will begin hosting the events the Downtown Merchants previously hosted including the Scarecrow Festival and Wine and Art Walk. The Farmers' Market will begin this spring and will run through October. They are going to try and host unique weekly family friendly events and recruit new vendors for the market.	N/A	N/A
Next Board Meeting	Monday, May 24, 2021	N/A	N/A
Next Committee Meetings	April 14, 2021 & May 12, 2021	N/A	N/A
Review of Minutes	N/A	N/A	N/A
Old Business	OVC Board/Officers -	N/A	N/A
	Chair: Hank Wolf	Moved by Matt Skelly, 2nd by Scott Struchen.	Motion to nominate Hank Wolf as Chair. Motion Carried.
	Vice Chair: Matt Skelly	Moved by Hank Wolf, 2nd by Scott Struchen.	Motion to nominate Matt Skelly as Vice Chair. Motion Carried.
	Treasurer: Caitlin Parker	Moved by Kevin Bressendorf, 2nd by Scott Struchen.	Motion to nominate Caitlin Parker as Treasurer. Motion carried.
	Secretary: Caitlin Parker	Moved by Scott Struchen, 2nd by Hank Wolf.	Motion to nominate Caitlin Parker as Secretary. Motion carried.

	Budget - Scott to email the City to schedule a planning session with the City, the Chamber, and the OVC to create a 5-year strategic plan for events, marketing, & tourism.		
New Business	CTA Bus Tail -	Moved by Scott Struchen, 2nd by Hank Wolf.	Motion to proceed with the CTA Bus tails for \$10,500. Kevin Bressendorf voted no. Motion carried, then motion stricken by the following motion.
	Chicago Affiliate Proposal	Moved by Caitlin Parker, 2nd by Scott Struchen.	Motion to proceed with the customized media solution from Comcast for \$21,400 and not proceed with the CTA bus tail at this time. Kevin Bressendorf voted no. Motion carried.
	Bylaws - Hank to review the Bylaws and report back to the board.		
Director's Report	A written director's report was provided in the board packet. Curt provided a high-level overview.	N/A	N/A
Committee Report	Operations - Written report in the board packet. Marketing - Written report provided & items discussed during meeting.	Moved by Scott Struchen, 2nd by Caitlin Parker.	Motion to place the February and March 2021 Finance reports on file. Motion carried.
Adjournment	6:30 p.m.	Moved by Kevin Bressendorf, 2nd by Scott Struchen.	Motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

Minutes typed and submitted by Caitlin Parker, Meeting, March 22, 2021 - Quorum was established