

Crete Area Chamber of Commerce
October 9, 2024
Regular Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Betsy Janicki at 6:31 pm. Members present were: Judy Petrungaro, Betsy Janicki, Julie Ciarlo, Janel Geary, Jamie Healy, Eddie Cerda, Sarah Wegley, James Pressler, Tony Santana, Michelle Adams, Mikayla Burling, Katie Connolly

Jamie moved and Julie seconded a motion to approve the September minutes as emailed. All present voted Aye.

The September treasurers' report was presented by Julie. Jamie moved and Sarah seconded a motion to approve the August report as presented. All ayes, Motion passed.

Julie moved and Janel seconded a motion accepting new members Roxann's Sports Bar and Jim Pressler Consulting. All Ayes. It was brought to attention that Fitness Premier joined in May, however acceptance was never voted on. Janel moved and Julie seconded a motion to accept a new member Fitness Premier. All Ayes.

Workshops: Still looking for our next workshop.

Marketing:

New Resident Bags: We need items from businesses for the bags. We will work on the new logo design and will investigate the purchase of new bags in 2025. Betsy will begin the work on a CACC budget. We will need to work on a play for donations/sponsorships.

Facebook/Website: The Farmers Market FB page has been eliminated. In the last month we had 250 new visitors to the webpage and 191 of them were referred by Google.

Newsletter: For the last edition of the newsletter 415 emails were sent and 407 were delivered. We had an open rate of 74% and a 15% click rate. The next edition will be created on 11/23 and scheduled to be emailed on December 1. Please submit any information to Jamie by 11/22.

Garage Sale Days: October 11 & 12 this weekend. Thank you to Sarah who graciously created the interactive map of the sale locations. We have about 40 participants.

Crawl-O-Ween; This year will be different. We have 6 bars participating and we are not charging or having a check-in procedure. We will do a FB costume contest and a post with directions and rules will go out. Each participating bar will be promoted through the Chamber page. Ritchies bar has shown an interest, but they would have to become members first and would not be on the flyer as they have already been printed.

Farmers Market: The 2025 market will only run for 8 weeks. June 16 – August 4. Betsy will begin work on updating the coordinator contract. This will be presented at the January meeting.

Crete Country Christmas: We are having a Guest Bartender Night at Smokey Jo's on Tuesday October 15 to simultaneously raise money for the event and increase awareness and volunteerism. We will have last year's sweatshirts for sale and opportunities to register for the Grinch Breakfast, 5K race and the Cocoa Crawl. 2024 Merchandise for sale during the weekend will be sweatshirts, glow wands/merch for the parade, and 2 sizes of can coozies. We have a new addition to the events this year, which is a "Waiting for Santa; Family PJ party" on Thursday evening from 6-8 pm.

Cruise Night: The season culminated with a party at Aurelios for all of the cruisers. Four board members were able to attend also. We will plan for the same season in 2025. June 2 – September 29. with no break as the 4th of July is on a Friday. Betsy thanked Julie for her hard work and continued support of the event.

Village News: None presented.

Next Luncheon is October 25. We will plan for Aurelios. Janel will call to confirm. Luncheons for 2025 will be on January 24, April 25, July 25 and October 24. This is a great time to bring your items for the welcome bags.

New Business/Business Updates – Discussion on whether to have a November and/or December meeting due to all the Crete Country Christmas obligations. It was decided to still host the Chamber meetings as scheduled. Tony Santana invited everyone to the BMO Harris Business After Hours Meet n Greet tomorrow from 5-7 pm. Mikayla from Lens Narrative said she is looking for new space for her business if anyone has any leads. Milestones Counseling in expanding (hence Lens Narrative need to move) with the new authorizations from the County and State. Sarah stated that the library is pleased to announce that through the Sponsorship from Independence Physical Therapy the Library will host the Orphan Train Exhibit in January.

Old Business: We need to talk about the sign on 394 next month. Membership letters will go out at the end of the month.

Betsy moved and Janel seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 pm. All ayes. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by
Janel Geary
CACC, Secretary