



Artesia Chamber Board Meeting
February 6, 2023

Meeting called to order by President Norma Rodriguez at 12:05 pm.

Members present were Rohini, Larry, Martha, Parimal, Frank, Manu, Shaila and Micah.

Special Guest:

Special guest was Mayor Manalo who suggested that the Chamber buy a banner to show support for local businesses with the names of those who have joined the Chamber.

She thanked Micah for attending and being present to support Chamber.

She said Chamber is present, active and moving forward.

She said the City Manager must approve what she does, but she will try to attend all of the Chamber events along with other Council members.

She also suggested that we work with the local TV station to promote Chamber events and businesses.

Shaila asked if Chamber info could be added to City website. Micah will take care of it.

Website Updates

Norma looks at the Website every day and is working closely with Ross to keep it current.

She plans to have a President's Message on website every month. Frank thought message was well done.

Norma said that Quickbook will soon be connected to our checking account, and we are reviewing Charter accounts and membership.

We are updating MailChimp and we "will be ready to roll online by March 30" according to Ross.

Norma wants a hold day retreat to update bylaws, Date and time TBD.

Norma also shared her Goals for the year with the Board, and plans to attend City Council meetings. She hopes other members will also join her to give Chamber updates.

Chamber's January events were well attended.

Bylaws Update:

Frank wants members to bring them to meetings. He also discussed need for Board members to encourage Restaurants to participate on Restaurant week, March 27 to April 2.

Ambassador Update:

Norma said Ambassadors need to be trained before we choose future Ambassadors.

Rohini said they are volunteers who go to events, programs, meetings and introduce themselves.

They should also attend ribbon cuttings.

Norma said we also need a Chair who will report to the Board. There will be an application after we have revamped program and have each applicant sign an agreement. We also want to ensure they are fulfilling their roles & responsibilities.

New Member Survey:

Nora and Rohini shared results of Survey. It is still a work in progress and more data is needed.

Businesses had heard of Chamber but are not sure what we do and thought we were part of the City.

Event Update:

Meet & Greet with Michelle Steel at Fashions by Rohini. Only those who are invited can attend.

Small Business Grants:

Micah is promoting this and encourages businesses to apply. Much discussion about holding an event where the city can help businesses with the paperwork.

Deadline for submission is March 1.

Parimal shared a Free Tax Preparation Event. Date to be determined. He also shared about a Cultural Family Day on February 17 at 5:00 pm at Elliot Elementary School.

Treasurer's Report:

Martha reported an Ending Balance of 13,635.05 with monthly income of 1,085.00 and Expenditures of \$621.31.

Martha also informed Board that she will be leaving at end of March, so Board needs to find a replacement before then.

Board Comments:

Rohini asked about placing a Chamber ad in the Artesian.

Norma reminded Board that Chairs will be invited to provide updates at Board meetings. Please submit your projects with budget requests by February 26 for consideration and approval.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Larry Caballero, Secretary

Artesia Chamber of Commerce