

## *It's Annual Meeting time . . .*

### Meetings

- MAR 1** CCEDC Board
- MAR 14** Choose Carrington
- MAR 14** Garden Club
- MAR 21** CVB Board
- MAR 24** Annual Meeting



### Like Us!

Plans are underway for the Annual Meeting of the Carrington Chamber of Commerce, Convention & Visitors Bureau, Carrington Community Development Corporation and the Economic Development Authority.

In January, the Chamber, Carrington Community Development Corporation along with Carrington Economic Development began the merging of the three organizations. We'll hear more about this at the Annual Meeting.

A date of **Thursday, March 24** has been set and the venue is the Chieftain. We will have a social hour, nice meal and annual reports which will include "What's New in Carrington?"

Booth space will be available for any business or organization that is interested. There is no charge.

Advance tickets may be purchased and can be invoiced. Anyone is welcome to attend to hear what's happening in the Central City.

### Chamber / EDC Board

Nikki Mertz  
Scott Buchholtz  
Nicole Threadgold  
Rosie Mozelle  
Kim Cook  
Deedra Aasand  
Chris Mertz  
Scott Beumer  
Tom Erdmann

The board meets the first Tuesday of each month.

### Christmas Cash Program Recap

We appreciate the support of Bank Forward, Community Credit Union and Gate City Bank to offer this program again during the past holiday season.

Many shoppers took advantage of the program which offers a 10 month loan with 0% interest along with 10% free money which is funded by a grant from the CED city sales tax fund.

In all, \$45,775.00 was spent locally at our participating member businesses.

The purpose of the program is to encourage local spending at our businesses in Carrington.

Thank you to those of you who participated in the program!

## Ambassador Visits



On February 9, Chamber Ambassadors held a ribbon cutting at the Foster County Independent. The Ambassadors congratulated Amy Wobbema on the purchase of the newspaper last fall. New to the Independent is the launch of their website, [www.fosterconews.com](http://www.fosterconews.com). Pictured front row from L to R are Ambassadors Bob Lipetzky and Deedra Aasand; Owner Amy Wobbema and employees Leasa Lura, Tawnia Miller and Lori Buchholtz. Back row, employee Erik Gjovik and Ambassadors Dr. Vern Anderson and Chris Bichler. Not pictured are employees Linda Duursma and Renee Hopkins. Congratulations Amy!

## Employee of the Month

**If you have received superior customer service at any of our Chamber member businesses, please contact the Chamber office at 652-2524 or for an online nomination form go to <https://www.cgtn-nd.com/membership.html> and see the link for our nomination form.**



## Chamber Scholarship

A \$250.00 scholarship from the Carrington Area Chamber of Commerce will be announced this spring at the Honors Night at Carrington High School.

The scholarship opportunity is available to students at Carrington High School that are employed by Chamber member businesses. Applications are available at the high school and also online at [www.cgtn-nd.com](http://www.cgtn-nd.com) Deadline to apply is April 1, 2022.

Your Chamber is happy to sponsor this scholarship as we know how important our youth are in our local workforce.

For more information, contact the Carrington Area Chamber of Commerce at 652-2524 or email to: [chambergal@daktel.com](mailto:chambergal@daktel.com).

## Carrington Community Endowment Fund

The Carrington Community Endowment Fund has begun accepting grant applications for the 2022 spring grant round. Only applications submitted online will be accepted, and technical assistance will be available for anyone who needs it. Applicants must be designated by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, or a government agency. Groups without such designation seeking to apply may enlist a fiscal sponsor. Applications must be submitted by March 15, 2022. Applicants are only allowed to receive funding once per year.

For instructions on how to register your organization and to apply for a grant, visit [www.NDCF.net/Carrington](http://www.NDCF.net/Carrington) and click on the Apply tab. If you have questions, you are encouraged to call the North Dakota Community Foundation at 701-222-8349, or locally Laurie Dietz 652-2524.

The Carrington Community Endowment Fund was established in 1980 as a permanent endowment fund managed by the North Dakota Community Foundation. Earnings from the fund are given as grants every year to organizations that support the Carrington community.

## Trivia Time

**Who was the most recent person(s) to be featured on our 'Faces of Carrington' segment on Choose Carrington Facebook?**

- A. Jared, Jacie & Ryker Volk
- B. Mayor Tom Erdmann
- C. Wendy Wise
- D. Greg Grenz



Be the **FIRST** person to **email** the Chamber office with the correct trivia answer and you could **WIN** \$20 in Carrington Cash, courtesy of the Carrington Area Chamber of Commerce!

[\*\*chambergal@daktel.com\*\*](mailto:chambergal@daktel.com)

Deedra Aasand was the winner of our last Trivia Time Question!

## Board Meeting Minutes

CHAMBER BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 2, 2021- 12:00 NOON  
LEEVERS BREAK ROOM

ATTENDING: Nicole Threadgold, Linda Schuster, Suzie LaBelle, Matt Paulson, Rosie Mozelle and Laurie Dietz. Absent: Scott Buchholtz, Nikki Mertz and Karlee Griffin. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Nicole Threadgold. Linda moved to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2021 meeting, seconded by Suzie. Motion carried. Financial report was presented. Rosie moved to approve the financial report, seconded by Suzie. Motion carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

Committee reports: Ambassadors: Most recent visit – Carrington City Library on October 18 (new children’s area). Birding Drives Dakota: Annual meeting was held October 13. Not much new to report. Healthy Communities: Linda and Laurie attended the October meeting. Discussion topics included a park playground project, etc. CED, CDC & CVB: CED: Met this week – no report. CDC: Nothing new to report. CVB: Minutes shared. Work continues to move forward on installing ‘Carrington’ signs on Hwy 200. Carrington Community Endowment Fund: Nothing new to report. Membership Update: The 4th quarter renewals have been sent out. Welcome Wagon: Laurie has been delivering to new residents. Main St Beautification / Garden Club: Flowering pots and baskets have been put away for the winter season. Retail & Promotions: Nothing new to report.

- Choose Carrington: Upcoming meeting is November 10.

-Building repairs: Laurie brought an estimate for replacement of water heater (6 gal. electric). Matt moved to authorize installation of water heater. Seconded by Rosie, motion carried. Nicole and other board members recommended that we put a portion of our funds into the market share account to keep it up for building upkeep.

-Strategic Plan/Restructure of Organizations: Moving forward. Continuing to work with city attorney on drafting documents.

-Small Business Saturday Promotion: This year the event is November 27. Laurie will promote this throughout November. No materials from American Express this year it seems.

-Christmas Cash Program: The program has begun. Advertising and promotion continues now through Dec.

-Christmas Around the Town: This year Christmas Around the Town will be held on November 29.

Promotion of this event has begun. Parade is at 5:30 pm.

### NEW BUSINESS

-Christmas Lighting Contest: A few board members will help judge for winners by December 14. Public nominations are welcome as well.

-Other: Discussion on holding a Childcare Appreciation event; perhaps on May 6 (childcare appreciation day)

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Suzie moved to approve and pay all bills presented. Seconded by Linda, motion carried.

NEXT MEETING DATE: December 7 at the Chieftain.

Matt moved to adjourn, meeting adjourned.



## Board Meeting Minutes

CHAMBER BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 7, 2021- 12:00 NOON  
CHIEFTAIN

ATTENDING: Nicole Threadgold, Suzie LaBelle, Matt Paulson, Scott Buchholtz, Nikki Mertz, Karlee Griffin and Laurie Dietz. Absent: Linda Schuster, Rosie Mozelle. The meeting was called to order by Chair Scott Buchholtz. Nicole moved to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2021 meeting, seconded by Suzie. Motion carried. Financial report was presented. Matt moved to approve the financial report, seconded by Nikki. Motion carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

Committee reports: Ambassadors: Laurie's been checking in with several businesses regarding visits. Healthy Communities: Laurie reported on the new playground project being planned for West Park. CED, CDC & CVB: CED: Meeting tomorrow. CDC: Nothing new to report. CVB: Minutes shared. Work continues to move forward on installing 'Carrington' signs on Hwy 200. Carrington Community Endowment Fund: Nothing new to report. Membership Update: Laurie is working on 4th quarter renewals and any other past due. Welcome Wagon: Awaiting some items for the welcome bags. Main St Beautification / Garden Club: The south Carrington sign is all decorated and lit and it looks terrific.

- Choose Carrington: Most recent meeting was November 10. Looking at doing some fun family events in January (bowling on Jan 9 and another date (perhaps Jan 23) for a games event.
- Building repairs: The new water heater has been installed.
- Strategic Plan/Restructure of Organizations: Nikki reported on the bylaws and agreements that have been put together for the new organization. This merger will begin in January.
- Small Business Saturday Promotion: Held November 27. We received materials and got them out to the retailers, did a radio campaign with KDAK, social media etc.
- Christmas Cash Program: We are about equal with last year at this time. Hoping for a good year.
- Christmas Around the Town / Parade: Was held on November 29 with a beautiful evening and nice weather. This year we had terrific entries and the route continued on to Golden Acres Manor for the residents there since the evening was warm. First place went to Golden Acres Manor with their Charlie Brown entry, second place to Carrington Medical Center with their 'Snow Much Fun' entry. Many honorable mentions as they were all terrific.
- Christmas Lighting Contest: A few board members will help judge for winners by December 14. Public nominations are welcome as well.

### NEW BUSINESS

- Laurie's review: Some discussion but more info is needed.
- 2022 Budget: Tabled due to restructuring organization.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Suzie moved to approve and pay all bills presented. Seconded by Nicole, motion carried.  
NEXT MEETING DATE: December 21 at the Chieftain. Nikki moved to adjourn, meeting adjourned.

CHAMBER BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 21, 2021 12:00 NOON  
CHIEFTAIN

ATTENDING: Nicole Threadgold, Suzie LaBelle, Matt Paulson, Scott Buchholtz, Nikki Mertz, Linda Schuster, Rosie Mozelle and Laurie Dietz. The meeting was called to order by Chair Scott Buchholtz.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- Laurie's Annual Review: Matt moved to increase Laurie's wage to \$45,633.00 and the monthly benefit (for IRA or health insurance) to \$500.00 per month plus 4% of wage (\$652.00 /month).

Seconded by Nikki, motion carried. Rosie moved to adjourn.

Next meeting January 4 with merged boards.

New merged board (9) members are: Scott Buchholtz, Nikki Mertz, Nicole Threadgold, Rosie Mozelle, Deedra Aasand, Scott Beumer, Tom Erdmann, Kim Cook and Chris Mertz.

## Board Meeting Minutes

CARRINGTON CHAMBER & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 4, 2022 12:00 NOON  
CHIEFTAIN

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** Tom Erdmann & Chamber Chair Scott Buchholtz-Meeting was called to order at 12:00PM at the Chieftain Conference Center. **PRESENT:** Nikki Mertz, Tom Erdmann, Scott Buchholtz, Scott Beumer, Deedra Aasand, Rosie Mozelle, Kimberly Cook, Nicole Threadgold, Chamber Director-Laurie Dietz, CED Director-Karlee Griffin. **NOT PRESENT:** Chris Mertz

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Scott Buchholtz nominated Nikki Mertz for the position of Chair, Scott Beumer seconded the motion. No further nominations were received for this position and nominations were declared closed. Deedra moved for a unanimous vote, Kimberly Cook seconded, motion carried. Nicole nominated Scott Buchholtz for the position of Vice-Chair, Tom seconded. No further nominations were received for this position and nominations were declared closed. Tom called for a unanimous vote, motion carried. Scott Buchholtz nominated Deedra Aasand for the position of Treasurer, Kimberly seconded. No further nominations were received for this position and nominations were declared closed. Tom called for a unanimous vote, motion carried

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Tom made a motion to approve the presented minutes for the month of December for the CDC, CED, and Chamber, Rosie seconded, motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR CED & CHAMBER:** Tom moved to approve the financial reports as presented, Nicole seconded, motion carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Chamber Committee Reports

**Ambassadors:** On the list are for future visits are the Independent, Heartland Ready Mix, Summit PT and Sports Performance, Chieftain, Junk in the Truck, Northern Plains Elec, and Bravera.

**Membership Update:** Some renewals still have not been received.

**Welcome Wagon:** Awaiting more items for the bags.

**Events & Activities:** A committee will be formed or combine with Choose Carrington.

**Strategic Plan / Restructuring organizations:** New board has been formed and now will be looking into combining the workspace for the Chamber Director and CED Director.

**Christmas Cash program:** Total redeemed as of December 29, 2021 is \$30,435.00. The total in 2020 was \$39,005.00.

**Christmas Lighting Contest:** Winners were announced on KDAK, Independent, and Facebook.

### NEW BUSINESS

**CCEDC Budget/Policies & Procedures:** The budget for 2022 will be drafted by a small committee made up of the following members: Tom, Nikki, Deedra, Laurie, and Karlee. Policies and Procedures for the new board will be constructed by CED Director- Karlee which will then be edited and reviewed by the following committee members: Tom, Chris, Kimberly, Nicole, Laurie, and Karlee.

**Authorization for Agreement:** Scott Buchholtz made a motion to authorize Chair Nikki Mertz to sign the agreement between the city and county for the new organization named the Carrington Chamber and Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC).

**New Organization Bank Account:** Tom moved to open a new checking account at Bremer Bank in Carrington with authorized signatures from Chair Nikki Mertz, Vice-Chair Scott Buchholtz, Treasurer Deedra Aasand, and Chamber Director Laurie Dietz, Scott Beumer seconded, motion carried.

**Milestone Early Learning Center:** A business plan was received from Whitney Carter who plans to open a daycare in April 2022. Board decided to table any discussion on assistance until a formal application is completed.

**Demolition Cost Share Incentive:** CED Director-Karlee Griffin presented some current issues related to the current Demolition Cost Share incentive program and suggested some language changes for the program.

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## Board Meeting Minutes

Continued from previous page.

Deedra made a motion to recommend city council approval to update the language of the current demolition cost share by adding in the eligibility requirements that the applicant must present a marketable title, title opinion, updated abstract, and all current/past due real estate taxes and specials must be paid to be considered eligible for the grant. These changes are being recommended as retroactive to the current in progress cost share grant with Justin Johnson, Tom seconded, motion carried.

Justin Johnson Demolition Cost Share: Discussion was started on the demolition cost share that is currently in progress with Justin Johnson. It was stated that there is currently no abstract or clear title for the property and in order for the City of Carrington to take ownership of this property all these issues must be fixed. Tom made a motion to recommend city council approval to amend the previously approved motion for the demolition cost share which stated Economic Development would reimburse 75% of total demolition costs with a maximum of \$10,000 by changing the motion to state that Economic Development will reimburse 75% of total demolition costs with a maximum of \$13,000, Scott Buchholtz seconded, motion carried.

Economic Development Scholarship: A scholarship application was submitted by Michael Clifton who is being sponsored by Leading Edge Equipment. Michael will be attending NDSCS in Wahpeton in the fall of 2022 to pursue his two year degree. At the beginning of each semester (if approved), Leading Edge Equipment and Economic Development will grant \$2125 (\$1062.50 each) and ND Career Builders will match it with \$2125 (total of \$4250 each semester for four semesters). These funds will go towards tuition, fees, books, and tools. Upon graduation from the John Deere Tech Program, Leading Edge Equipment will employ Michael full-time and will be required to work for the business for a minimum of 3 years to fulfill their scholarship requirements. Scott Beumer made a motion to recommend city council approval to accept the Economic Development Scholarship with a maximum scholarship amount of \$4250(which will be split over 4 semesters) for Michael Clifton who is be sponsored by Leading Edge Equipment, Kimberly seconded, motion carried.

Approval of Administration for Community App: Deedra made a motion to recommend city council approval to appoint Laurie Dietz, Karlee Griffin, Jennifer Gast, and a Foster County Public Health representative as administration for the Community App being developed for the City of Carrington, Rosie seconded, motion carried.

Carrington Healthy Communities Playground project: Board reviewed application for grant and discussed the project. The board decided to table the application until more information was presented on other grants being applied for and what the match requirements are for these grants.

Annual Meeting: The board discussed the option of having an annual meeting. The board unanimously agreed to move forward with looking for dates in March to plan the annual meetin

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Nicole moved to approve the bills as presented, Scott Buchholtz seconded and after a unanimous roll call vote the motion passed.

NEXT MEETING DATE: February 1, 2022 at Chieftain Conference Center

ADJOURNMENT: Kimberly moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:30pm, Deedra seconded, motion carried.



## Carrington Area Chamber of Commerce

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### Looking ahead -

**March 13 ~ Daylight Savings Time Begins**

**March 17 ~ Carrington Medical Center Auxiliary Taco In A Bag Fundraiser**

**March 24 ~ Annual Meeting for Carrington Chamber & Economic Development**

**May 21 ~ City Wide Yard Sales**

