

BECON
8/16/24

Kind of a light group today for our monthly Business Meeting but the crowd was lively and feisty. Could be that we are almost to the weekend and everyone is feeling good or maybe it was the double-mimosas, not sure.

Since this was a Business Meeting, I would normally tell you to reference the minutes for the nitty gritty details of the meeting, but I'm not sure that the minutes have gone out yet. As such, I'll highlight what was discussed.

Announcements

- Tim reminded us of the Kids N Cowboys fundraiser and social over at the Tap Inn tomorrow from 6 – 10. For those that don't know, KNCs is a group that raises money for kids with cancer.
- Last week – maybe two weeks ago, Shawnee was getting us all fired up about another school supply drive for the United Way. However, as it turns out, someone already beat us to the punch, so we aren't needed just yet. They are planning a homeless supply drive coming up in the near future, so we'll probably take that on instead.
- The BIG ONE is next week – Saturday 8/24/24. Yep, the famous FTB – that's Food Truck Battle for you rookies. So, it all hands on deck. You have until this evening to opt out if you can't make it otherwise everyone is needed. If you are marked available, you will be placed, particularly for the second shift where we are a little light right now. Also, tomorrow, the FTB Committee is hanging banners and flags at 10 am and could use some help if you are free. This includes a free breakfast sandwich and supposedly, the world famous Caesar bar by Wade and I don't think they are talking about Caesar salad. If you can help, make sure you let Rene know so they have enough sandwiches and Caesar fixins on hand. Just a few quick facts about the upcoming FTB:
 - 50 food trucks will be there. We had more last year but it was probably too many as some trucks didn't get much action so the Committee capped the trucks at 50 this year.
 - Based on the Facebook interest, it is anticipated that around 7,000 people might show up for this, which is about the same as last year.
 - Sponsorship \$\$ is solid – around \$41K to date.
 - The shifts run 11:30 – 3 and 3 – 7.
- Just a reminder that our Exchange Club District is selling those gun raffle tickets. Keep that in mind in terms of selling these guys as well as purchasing a few yourselves.

Reports

- Secretary – Dina (in for Shannon) reported that the Club's membership stands at 116. We had one resignation last month (Lois Schroder). Also, we have a new application in hand from Mike Bazemore, who is the Athletic AD at MSUB.
- Prez Elect – Shawnee said we are pretty well covered for the what's left of the Fair and thanked everyone for working, particularly Mike and Bruce, who have been toiling long days at the Midway bar and Metra. As far as upcoming events, we have these:
 - Hozier – 8/27
 - Cody Johnson – 9/7
 - Fusion Fight League – 9/13
 - Also we had a couple of volunteers step up to serve beer at United Ways CommUnity Rally on 9/12 – games, food trucks, music – an all-around good time that we should check out.
 - 10/3 - Judas Priest
 - 10/31 – The Price is Right so CMON DOWN!
- Treasurer – Ed reported that we are in pretty good shape in the Operations and Membership Accounts. A good portion of the General Account is the FTB sponsorships. And good news, the Bejot made some money this year! Finally, the Budget Committee has met and the proposed budget will be discussed and considered some more at the September meeting.
- Biz Manager – Mike said that our new lower booth may be ready for the upcoming concerts and we may have as many as four booths for these. Through July we are at \$11,644 for the young fiscal year, which is behind last year. And regarding the Fair, well, it hasn't been real good frankly. Maybe this weekend's events will help out.
- Grants Committee – Dave gave us a summary of the granting that took place with the \$28K we had to grant, 10% of which goes straight to the Foundation per our bylaws. Grants were given to six of the 14 applicants including:
 - \$5K to Tumbleweed
 - \$7500 to YWCA
 - \$5K for the Education Foundation for the Billings Public Schools
 - \$2K for Kids N Cowboys
 - \$5K for Community Leadership & Development Inc
 - \$10K for Hoodies for Heroes - \$7500 from last year's FTB and \$2,500 committed from this year's FTB

In closing, Dina mentioned that most of the committees don't have Chairs and there are several committees that have no one signed up. So, please take another look at those and see where you can help.

Have a great weekend!