

# Sabetha Chamber of Commerce

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## December 11, 2023 Report

BOARD MEETING – The Meeting was called to order by the Chamber's vice president, Chris Isch. Those present: Kim Aberle, Susan Gudenkauf, Reggie Haynie, Dayra Menold and Gina Murchison. Kent Grimm/Sycamore Springs was a guest.

### Approve the Minutes:

Dayra Menold made the motion to approve the minutes as emailed out and Susan Gudenkauf seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

### Accept the Financial Reports:

Susan Gudenkauf made the motion to accept the financial reports for November and Kim Aberle seconded the motion. The reports were placed on file for audit.

### New Advertising Idea:

Kent Grimm from Sycamore Springs was present to discuss an idea for the Sabetha Chamber that would benefit the community and businesses. He suggested purchasing an electronic sign like the schools have. We discussed many locations and agreed to investigate what a sign would cost.

### Business of the Month:

November Business of the Month, Triple C Manufacturing/Hydra Bed has nominated Garrett Lawn Service as the Business of the Month for December. Custom Life Co. is going to give us several ideas for the future instead of the Big S. We will choose the Business of the Year in December. Our choices are: Greater Sabetha Community Foundation, Sabetha Dental, Vintage Butterfly, Custom Life Co., Harling Chiropractic, Apogee Animal Health, Grimm's Garden, Morrill Elevator, Grimm Girls Farms, Goodman Brothers, Triple C/Hydra Bed and Garrett Lawn Service.

### Business of the Year 2023:

The 2023 Business of the Year is Triple C Hydra Bed. Cindy Alderfer will be

our presenter at the Community Gala on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Chamber Newsletter:

The Sabetha Chamber Newsletter is sent out on the first of each month. The open rate of the Constant Contact emails is 65%-75%.

Community Christmas Tree

Special appreciation to John & Gina Murchison for picking out and delivering the tree!! The City Crew put the tree up on December 7<sup>th</sup>. It's a shame it wasn't up for Window Opening but contractors have their own schedule.

Christmas Wreath:

Special appreciation to Gudenkauf Tree Service for installing the Christmas Wreath and swags and to the United Bank and Sabetha Health Mart for letting us use your buildings.

Window Opening:

Window Opening was November 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8:00 pm. The weather was very cold, and I feel like it affected the Trolley Rides.

We had: Hot dogs by KSI Conveyors, Trolley Rides by the AC Home & Albany Society, Caroling by Odyssey & Infinity, Live Nativity by the Sabetha Methodist Church, Santa Visits at The Parlor, Away in the Manger Petting Farm.

Santa Visits:

Thank You Reggie for hosting Santa!

Lighted Christmas Parade:

The winners of the Lighted Christmas Parade are: First Place, Northwind Technical Services and Second Place Jill Stapleton & Finley Hann.

Away in the Manger Petting Farm:

Thank you to the following sponsors: Bern-Sabetha Veterinary Clinic, C & K Service, Community National Bank, Grain Belt Express, NorthWind Technical Services, Schenck Process, United Bank, Wenger Mfg. and special appreciation to the Grimm Girls Farms.

Christmas Market:

The Christmas Market was in the City Hall Gym from 5:30-8:00 and we had 10 vendors participate. The vendors felt like not having Santa at City Hall cut the foot traffic down. Dayra Menold and Tammy Studer had a wreath making class in the small commission room and they were very happy with the number of participants.

Angel Tree for the Elderly:

We had 30 senior citizens participating this year. The gifts were delivered Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.

Count Down to Christmas:

I started making posts for Count Down to Christmas on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Shop Home for the Holidays:

The promotion kicked off on November 20<sup>th</sup> -December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Light Up Sabetha House Decorating Contest:

Dayra Menold and Gina Murchison will judge the contest this year.

Greater Sabetha Community Foundation Gala:

The Community Gala is January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Howl at the Moon

Howl at the Moon is coming back to Sabetha on Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The doors open at 5:30 and the Show starts at 7-10 pm. Downtown Coffee and Gourmet Gatherings are the food vendors, and the Sabetha VFW Post 7285 will have the cash bar. Tickets are \$25 each and they will go on sale on December 11<sup>th</sup>!

\*We are planning for 325 people this year.

Membership:

Membership goes out the first part of January.

\*Sabetha was founded in August 1874. Next year Sabetha will be 150 years old. The Sabetha Chamber was incorporated in 1958. We are 65 years old. I think we should get together with the City Commissioners and plan a celebration for Sabetha. Susan Gudenkauf, Kim Abele, Chris Isch, Reggie Haynie and Gina Murchison will start looking into planning the celebration.

The next meeting will be on January 8th at noon. We meet in the small commission room at City Hall. Everyone is invited .... we encourage new, fresh ideas!!

Meeting Adjourned  
Gina Murchison /Director

