



Minutes

Date/Time: Thursday, May 17 (3:30-5:00pm)

Kids' Food Basket: 2055 Oak Industrial Drive NE, Ste C – Grand Rapids

A "Happy Hour" Reception will be held immediately after the meeting at the KFB Farm (1919 Leonard Street) – with Michigan beer and wine being served.

Parking at the farm is limited and carpooling is recommended.

MISSION

Our mission is to provide Kent County hospitality related businesses an opportunity to meet professionally with a common interest to better serve our industry and community while furthering the overall tourism landscape of our region.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Welcome & Introductions: Diana

Approval of April 2018 Minutes

Karen M. – Approved Minutes

Rachel – Seconded Minutes

Approval of April 2018 Financial Report

Ed – Approved

Karen – Seconded

Special Guests:

- **Afton DeVos – Kids' Food Basket - they are expanding – Afton showed us a video – 16 year old organization – non-profit charitably funded. 8000 meals served per day to 46 schools. They are focused on food equity and adding into that the farm program. They will be planning an urban farm. They will be working on 5 kid friendly vegetables to be integrated into the lunches and affordable produce for low income families. The facility will be moved into in 2019. This will allow them to expand and move health incomes into a positive direction for low income families. There are 16 schools on the waiting list. The work on filling the gap for families who have a gap in finances to be able to afford the food they need. Kids Food Basket summer volunteer opportunities are available in the beginning of June. There is a wish list on Kids Food Basket for needed items – updated monthly. August September is the break group date - <https://www.kidsfoodbasket.org/>**

Monthly Reports

- **Golf Outing – The golf course is now Stonewater. There are 2 sponsors – AHC and EXGR. There are 12hoel sponsors – 80 golfers are registered. \$15,000 has been raised so far. We plan to send 10 to 12 students to the 2 day event next year with this revenue. We need to send a comp certificate to Ed if Possible.**
- **Experience Grand Rapids – Anna – Cider Week GR is this week through this weekend. There is an event on the bridge this Saturday. 8/8 to 8/19 is restaurant week GR. Customer Advisory board was last week – they received great**
- **Diversity and Inclusion feedback. Customer Advisory board was last week – they received great. - Doing a HBCU FAM tour next fall.**
- **West Michigan Sports Commission – Jamie is working on the Nation Collegiate Taekwondo, Also working on hosting the USA Masters Games (Senior Event) June 2020, USA Nat Gymnastics Championships – Expected Citywide, International trail symposium – working on getting for 2020. Girls hockey event**

- coming 9/28 – becoming Annual.
- Certified Tourism Ambassador (CTA) –No June 13th class – Add June 6th Class. Check the CTA website for volunteer opportunities.
- West Michigan Tourist Association – Karen: on May 1 a special Great Lakes Escape Edition – is in USA Today newspaper. They also did a media blast in Milwaukee WI recently.
- Women in Leadership-Grand Rapids – Golf Outing Next Monday.
- Michigan Cares for Tourism –Register for the September event. Turn in your receipt after the event and KCHA will reimburse you for \$50. Make sure to register as a member.
- Grand Valley State University – Michael – There are students in France at the film festival – some students just left for Costa Rica. Let them know if you have intern needs.
- Ferris State University – No one present -
- Michigan Hospitality Educators Alliance – We are partnering with Ferris and GVSU for the career fair. We will send members to mentor students at that event.
- Experience Pink : No Updates

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- May 21 – WIL Swing to Success
- May 22 – Enhanced CTA @ City Flats (9-10:30am) w/ Langdon Bartley: Sneak Peek of what's coming to GR
- June 4 – KCHA Golf Outing @ Stonewater Country Club – **still team availability and hole sponsorships remaining.**
- June 13 – CTA @ Baymont Inn (1-5pm)
- June 28 – Women in Leadership
- July 19 – CTA @ Hampton Inn & Suits (8am-12pm)

Round Table Discussion

Membership committee meeting is moved to June. Karen McDaniels would like to join as well as Jane. Rates for membership are going up next year.

Adjournment

Kent County Hospitality Association
 PO Box 230092
 Grand Rapids, MI 49523-0092
www.KentCountyHospitality.org