Meridian Chamber of Commerce

Leadership Development Committee

Wednesday, December 2, 2020 | 8:00 am

Conference Call

**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Gretchen Caserotti

 Tammy DeWeerd

 Mike Ruffner

 Connie Miller

 Bernadette Reisbeck

 Heather McMillan

 Toni Smith

 Keri Davidson

 Tracey Stone

 Troy McClain

 Ryan Riley

 Reed Brimhall

 Sean Evans

 Michelle Leverett

1. Welcome – Gretchen
2. Review of Committee Sub-group Activities
* **Leadership Meridian Program**
* The application deadline for this program was November 30, 2020; to date, the Chamber has received 15 applications. An official invitation with welcome letter will be sent out next week to all participants with instructions for completing the Strength Finders assessment and preparation to review the John Maxwell leadership book’s first chapter before the first session.
* The first three sessions (beginning on January 14, 2021) have been planned. Some of the planned tours may require the class to be split in half to maintain the less-than-10 requirement in place at this stage of COVID recommendations.
* We only received a couple of replies from local non-profit organizations regarding a possible project for the Leadership Meridian class. As we were hoping to have a few options of projects for this class to choose from, if any committee members have a non-profit contact, please let the Chamber staff or Bernadette know. Mike recommended the Idaho Food Bank.
* Bernadette also asked that any Leadership Meridian alumni choose one Leadership Meridian upcoming session to be present at.
* Gretchen recommended adding an Early Childhood Education component to the education focus session.
* It was also recommended that a pre- and post-Leadership Meridian survey be composed, having the participants rate their leadership skills, based on the skills emphasized in the John Maxwell book, prior to the class and upon completion of the program. It would be good to have a spot for participants to comment on what they gained from each session. Also mentioned was a survey that could be sent to employers at the end of the program to see what the employers viewed as skills gained by their participating employees. Bernadette and Heather will work on a survey draft, and Gretchen offered her assistance in drafting this survey as well.
* **Leadership Development for Youth**
* There has already been a good response to the letter that Toni and Keri composed and sent to Meridian Chamber members regarding the Meridian Chamber Scholarships and the softball tournament, Field of Dreams Tournament, scheduled for April 10, 2021. The Chamber so far received in the mail $600, and one business sent in a reply card that they would like to secure a spot for a softball team; Sean has also received 4 phone calls from businesses wanting to secure a spot in the softball tournament.
* Toni and Keri will be reaching out to other business community leaders requesting scholarship donations.
* The February 2021 Job Shadow Day has been put on hold after a November 12th meeting with West Ada School District College and Career Counselors. During this meeting, the struggle to get students involved in virtual programs was discussed. Mary Ann Ranells echoed this concern during the November Chamber Board meeting. This committee will consider other options, such as a Career Prep day, to take place possibly in the spring.
* The Junior Achievement Inspire program was discussed as an alternative program to bring businesses to the students for a career exploration day. Connie is familiar with this Inspire program, and she will meet to discuss this option further with Toni.
* **Women in Leadership**
* In a recent meeting of Tracey, Rhea, Tammy, Sean and Cheryl, the goals for 2021 for this sub-committee were discussed and quarterly events were scheduled.
* In the first quarter of 2021, a February 10, 2021 event is planned to be held virtually from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The topic will revolve around body language in sales and management, manners in the workplace, and professional ethics. This committee will seek sponsors for this event and are looking at possibly providing appetizers to be delivered by Crave to the registrants along with gifts (such a book on body language); they would also like to secure Chamber member gift cards/merchandise to be used for prize drawings.
* In the second quarter of 2021, a hybrid event is being planned for May 12, 2021 (from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm) to highlight employer responsibilities in the workplace. This discussion will also touch on the subject of sexual harassment (with possible presentations from those that have been subject to this behavior in the workplace), and Gretchen suggested offering bystander intervention tools (suggested Angela Taylor as a resource).
* In the third quarter of 2021, a social event is being planned possibly at Lakeview Golf Course where golf lessons for women will be offered along with discussions on how to network on the golf course, followed by a time of networking.
* This committee is still discussing the format for the fourth quarter event to be held on November 10, 2021.
* **Key Executive Roundtable**
* Connie and Mike have met and discussed their large networks and have been working through the names to put together a list of who they would like to see included in this group. Michelle will send a list of active Chamber members with contact information to Mike and Connie (as well as Toni and Keri), and Sean will forward his target list of potential Chamber members that he would like to see involved with the Chamber. Gretchen also has a list of businesses with the names and titles of business leaders that she would share.
* **Emerging CEO’s**
* Troy, Ryan and Tammy met a couple of weeks ago; this sub-committee will be structured similar to the Key Executive Roundtable sub-committee, and Troy will compose a re-cap of their meeting this afternoon to present to the committee-at-large.
1. Upcoming Leadership Development Committee Virtual Meeting Dates
* January 6, 2021, 8:00 am
* February 3, 2021, 8:00 am
1. Meeting Adjourned: 8:54 am

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Leverett