



May 25, 2019

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Erica Carley Speaks About WIDA

Erica Carley, Executive Director of WIDA (Western Iowa Development Association), spoke to the Treynor Optimist Club on May 25, 2019 at the Treynor Community Building. Carley has held the role for seven months.



Erica is an Oakland HS grad, UNI English Ed grad and has her masters from Doane. She taught in Bellevue for 20 years and took early retirement to move back to Oakland with her husband, Jason, to raise their child in a small town environment.

L-R: Erica Carley & Gary Funkhouser, her former teacher. Gary was a former WIDA board member.

Carley stated that WIDA is like a rural Chamber of Commerce and her role is to help rural Pott Co. be an ideal place for individuals and families to work, live, and engage. She is the only employee and is housed at Golden Hills in Oakland. The two organizations interact.

Carley is encouraging everyone to complete a town survey located on WIDA's web site- see below. On that web site you will find weekly info about what is happening in the rural communities in Pott Co. Her desire is to start a FREE weekly email newsletter. Ads will be possible for a cost but free to corporate members.

Funding for WIDA is provided by each town paying dues. Each town has representation on the board. Kelly Grosskurth is Treynor's board member. In addition, business and corporate memberships pay and have a person who serves on the board. Carley will meet with the Board of Supervisors in June to see about reinstating their funding.

Erica discussed "Ways to Help" promote your community/WIDA:

- 1) Free things to do to help:
 - a. Share posts on social media about your community, organizations, WIDA.
 - b. Promote your town/businesses on Facebook
 - c. Go to town events
 - d. Invite neighbors
 - e. Pick up trash
- 2) Support upcoming WIDA events- stay tuned to their web site to learn about the SWITA Summer Activity Bus, Pott Co. Pop-ups, Complete a town survey, Support RAGBRAI July 21-22 (Neola, Minden, Underwood, Walnut, Avoca), County newsletter will start soon.
- 3) Support Vision Treynor – time, money, labor
- 4) Events- City of Treynor may be adding a couple of events – support, talk up
- 5) Community Building- Invite people to join Optimist Club, Engage new people in the community – create mini groups – walking groups, card playing groups, etc.
- 6) School – provides career fair, financial literacy, prom, homecoming

Contact Erica at EricaForWIDA@gmail.com. Website: www.WIDAIowa.org Follow on Facebook: WIDA Western Iowa Development Association. Follow on Instagram: WIDA_Western_IA_Dev_Assoc

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Building. Thirteen members were present plus one guest, Erica Carley, speaker. Jokes were shared by Chad Guttau followed by the group saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Jordan Campbell gave the opening prayer.

The 50/50 Drawing was won by Chad Guttau and the Attendance Drawing was won by Jordan Campbell, who was present but not last week so it will continue to grow. Kirk Vorthmann's birthday was observed. No anniversaries were observed.

Bragging Rights contributions to the Youth Fund: 1) Marsha Underwood donated \$7 because it has been 7 years since she had her aneurism. 2) Kevin and

Marsha Underwood each donated \$3 to celebrate that Bailey White was the Female Athlete of the Year at St. Albert, received the Spirit Award at St. Albert, and Connor White had a good tennis season. 3) Judy Gutttau contributed to promote the good prime rib dinner served at the Back 40 in Macedonia and the good prime rib dinner served at the Classic Café in Malvern. (eaten a week apart) 4) Dee Gutttau donated to announce that their grandson Chase graduated from Olathe High School NW (Kansas) with over 500 grads. 5) Gary Gutttau contributed because Dale Willenborg had prepared the flags on the poles. Kirk Vorthmann and Bill Vorthmann each donated to state that the middle school musical was outstanding last night. 6) Dale contributed to salute his wife Diane for repairing 30 of the flags.

Community News: Memorial services will be conducted by the Legion at the cemeteries on Mon. The Legion is continuing to put up flags in the cemeteries.

Old Business:

Gary Gutttau stated 99 of the flags have been paid for. There are 3 new flag displayers. Dale Willenborg announced that the Legion contributed their flags to the Optimists – 25 good, 2 printed, 13 damaged, one too large. (See pictures of putting up flags today below.)

New Business:

The Can Kennel sorting will take place for SPY on Wednesday at 3:30 PM and on June 12 at 12:15 PM.

Dale announced that John Klein is continuing with his efforts to fund sponsorship of the Omaha Street Percussion performing for the elementary school in Treynor and also hopefully on a float for the Homecoming parade (Sept. 13). Jordan Campbell announced that the elementary school has approved the program for Homecoming morning.

The new Officers for next year beginning in October were approved. Elected were:

Bill Vorthmann, President

Dale Willenborg, Vice President,

Gary Gutttau, Treasurer,

Judy Gutttau, Secretary

Board Members: Gary Funkhouser, Ken Graham, Jordan Campbell, John Klein.

Flags will be taken down at 4 PM this coming Wed.

The next meeting will be at Zion Congregational Church- June 1.



See Flag Pictures Below:

Calendar

- May 29 Can Kennel – St. Paul Youth – 3:30 PM
- May 29 Take down flags – 4:00 PM
- June 29 Treynor Days, Dedication of Helicopter

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Programs

- June Mick Gutttau (first 3 weeks)
Open (June 22)
June 28 – Treynor Days, no speaker?
Dale Willenborg
- July

Speakers

- June 1: Phil Waggoner, Mission work in Haiti
- June 8: TBA
- June 15: Adam Magill, graduate study research

Judy Gutttau, Editor, 31107 Dogwood Rd, Treynor, IA 51575
402-670-4330

Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575



One of 4 teams: L-R: Chad Guttau, Gary Guttau. Driver: Dee Guttau



A second Team: L-R: Jordan Campbell, Kirk Vorthmann,
Devan Campbell. Driver: Judy Guttau

Two other teams helped including: Jim Clausen, Bill Vorthmann, Denny White, Dale Willenborg, Ken Graham.