

Leon Chamber of Commerce
August 14, 2014

Members Present: Shane Akers, Cayle Buckingham, Marcia McAlpin, Pat Vanderflute, Maggie Lindsey, Chris Coffelt, Larry McAlpin, John Dunson, Heidi Bell, Jack Depond, Juanita Yutzy, Shannon Erb, Amy Whittington, Rudy and Joy Evertsen, Marcia Stephens, Marty and Laura Beemer, and Barb Onyett.

Meeting opened by president Shane Akers.

Treasurer's Report: Marcia McAlpin mentioned that the Wine Walk for next year we would need to purchase our own insurance. The USDA loan match was now all lent out to Buck Naked Sporting Goods. The bill for the 4th of July was turned in, but did not have the prize items listed.

Scholarship would remain \$800 for 2015 recipient.

Approval of treasurer's report was motioned by Heidi Bell and seconded by Jack DePond.

Old Business:

The 4th of July festivities went well, but we will need someone to head up the festivities for next year. The Rodeo booth was short on help, but the night was a record-breaking night. There were 12 workers present, next year we might need 15.

Fair - Marcia Stephens suggested that the fair auction pool funds be a set amount and then split up among different bids.

Tree's Forever - Maggie Lindsey talked about the community tour and design workshop that were held on August 5, 2014. It was a great opportunity for community members to come and give input on the different areas that our community needs, problematic areas and our future beautification. It was great to see the plans that the landscape architects developed. It would have been nice to see more community members at the workshop. The project has been the same people attend meetings and give input. This is an awesome opportunity for our community that we should fully participate in.

New Business:

Fall Festival - is tentatively set for October 18th. The committee is meeting soon and will be making the event plans.

Homecoming - Joy and Tonya committee members. Date is October 2, 2014. Cross Country team is planning either a color run for the Saturday after Homecoming.

Leon Revitalization Committee - current have two houses, the little league house and burnt home that we are finalizing the process for demolition. The public hearing for the houses is set for Monday, August 25, 2014. Big Doug is working with the committee to tear down the houses.

Heidi Bell mentioned that she would be attending the City Council meeting on Thursday, August 14, 2014 to present the proposal to the council. That this is not a personal gain, we are trying to clean up our community.

Marcia Stephens expressed a concern that if the lot is empty then the city has to mow it. Point was brought forth that the property owners are not paying taxes and the city is already mowing it.

The committee is a 503(1) c, there for will not have to pay taxes.

Ribbon cuttings - Maggie Lindsey reported that a future date for the ribbon cutting of Buck Naked Sporting Goods will be in the works. Once the remodeled gas station, "Hour Place" was complete we will plan a cutting event for them.

Suggestions for the good of the Group - Jack DePond reported that the Presbyterian Church garage sale went well, a lot of materials were sold and that they are half way there for the cost of tearing down the

church. They are working with the DNR for a potential economical development for the lot to become something. Jack has application forms if anyone has any ideas.

Discussion was held that the Leon Lanes bowling alley had closed its doors. Talk about what we do to help struggling business and show support. The discussion about the community and school need of having a bowling alley.

The meeting was motioned to adjourn by John Dunson and seconded by Larry McAlpin.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, September 4, 2014 at 7:00 a.m. at the Decatur County Hospital Board Room.

Chamber Member - Maggie Lindsey