

LEON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MEETING MINUTES

October 2, 2014

7 A.M. DCH Conference Room

PRESENT: Shane Akers, Maggie Lindsey, Heidi Bell, Chris Coffelt, Marcia McAlpin, Juanita Yutzy, Pat Vanderflute, Marcia Stephens, Larry McAlpin, Shannon Erb, John Dunsdon, Jack DePond, Jo Beth Smith

Shane Akers called the meeting to order at 7 A.M.

Secretary's Report

Marcia McAlpin moved for approval of the September Chamber minutes and Maggie Lindsey seconded.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was distributed and reviewed by Chamber. Heidi Bell moved for approval of the financial statement and John Dunsdon seconded. Motion approved. (Attachment A)

Old Business

Fall Festival

Heidi Bell reported that other than getting the student volunteers everything is ready to go. Maggie Lindsey reported that the flyers are being distributed today. The Courthouse employees are coordinating the chili cook-off and the proceeds are going towards the Freedom Rock. In case of inclement weather the back-up location is the Courthouse and the Community Center. The horseshoe tournament will be held on the empty lot behind JoBeth's house. Marcia will run the movie, "Box Trolls" as a matinee. The Lions have volunteered to be callers for Bingo.

Homecoming

The King/Queen Coronation is tonight and the game is tomorrow. The Lions are sponsoring a tailgate event and the Color Run and Carnival is on Saturday.

Tree's Forever – Visioning Group

This group will be set up at the Fall Festival with posters of the areas that are being looked at for revitalization.

Congratulations to Maggie Lindsey and Kat Akers for being awarded the \$7500 Wellmark grant for the Masonic Park.

Christmas Lights

Several replacement bulbs are needed for the lights. Some of the ornaments were refreshed with lights from other ornaments that were in worse shape. We need to budget for more new lights next year.

Reminder that the Chamber contributes money towards the Lion's Lighting Contest.

Southern Iowa Tourism Guide

The ads have to be turned in by the 13th. There hasn't been a lot of feedback from Lamoni. Beth Saxon helped them decide what the articles should focus on. Ten percent of the money we get will go towards the Decatur County article. Heidi presented a color magazine type marketing that another county has done. She said that they also want to work on a similar marketing for Decatur County. If there is money left she proposed that Kolton Hewlett is paid for all the work he has done on this project. He has designed ads, gone to meetings, met with businesses and put many hours into this project.

New Business/Committee Reports

Craft Show

Marcia Stephens suggested putting up the welcome banners at the Craft Show.

Leon Revitalization

The group currently owns two properties and are waiting for the ground to dry up so that the demolition can begin. The decision needs to be made as to what can and what can't go on the lot.

LCDC

John Dunsdon said they are open to development ideas. Wexford & James is a collection agency that has been interviewed for collecting the \$60,000 that Stephens Archery owes LCDC. The most we would get is 33 1/3% if it goes to court. Heidi Bell moved that Wexford & James be hired and Chris Coffelt seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the USDA loan process and how to approach those that aren't making their payments. The group agreed there needs to be a better process developed. The loan document needs to be located. A sub-committee will work on this process.

Ribbon Cuttings

Maggie Lindsey will check with Our Place to schedule a Ribbon Cutting in November.

Larry McAlpin moved to adjourn and John Dunsdon seconded.