

Leon Chamber of Commerce

Meeting Minutes – October 2016

Call to Order:

Shane Akers called the regular meeting of the Leon Chamber of Commerce to order at 7:07 a.m. on Thursday, October 6, 2016, in the Decatur County Hospital conference room.

Roll Call:

Shane Akers, Kolton Hewlett, Shannon Erb, Jo Beth Smith, Marcia McAlpin, Pat Vanderflute, and Heidi Bell.

Secretary's Report:

Kolton Hewlett distributed minutes from the August meeting. Jo Beth Smith made a motion, Heidi Bell seconded, to approve the minutes. M/C

Treasurer's Report:

Kolton Hewlett presented the treasurer's report. As of September 30, 2016, we had \$69,668.45 cash-on-hand. \$7,023.58 in the general fund, \$36,280.42 in LCDC, \$2,855.20 in RLF, \$4,200.10 in the banner account, \$3,027.10 in the Decatur County Tourism account, and \$16,282.05 in the RABGRAI fund. Heidi Bell made a motion, Jo Beth Smith seconded, to approve the financial report. M/C

Old Business:

Fall Festival: Shannon Erb reported that the event will take place October 15th, and plenty of activities have been planned. She invited volunteers to help that day, and reminded everyone to enter the chili, dessert and scarecrow contests.

Banners: Shannon Erb reported that she did not have any new information on the company we used to order the banners. She will work with Alliant Energy to get a couple of downed banners hung, and some out-of-date banners taken down. Discussion was had regarding the cost of new banners when we reorder in 2017. It was discussed that those that have been paying banner fees since the original installation will only need to pay the difference to get a new banner, while those that have not had a banner before will need to pay full price.

Cool & Connected: Shannon Erb reported that a new draft plan has been finalized. She recommended that Chamber form a subcommittee to implement the plan. Erb will send out the plan via email and invite volunteers to join the committee.

Christmas Lights: Shane Akers reported that we will need volunteers to help check the lights and organize them. He will determine a date and send an email inviting volunteers.

SWCC Housing: Shane Akers updated that the group is finalizing the details for the blueprints and within 2-3 weeks, the digging should be started to form the basement.

Craft Show: It was noted that we need volunteers to set up and take down the banner on November 12th. Marcia Stephens and Shane Akers volunteered to set it up. The banner is in the basement of From the Ground.

New Business:

Leon Noel: Heidi Bell reminded everyone that Leon Noel is December 3rd.

Ladies Night Out: Heidi Bell reported that Ladies Night Out will be held on November 17th from 5-8 pm. Any business that is interested in participating can contact Heidi. The cost to participate is \$10 to help with the advertising.

Resignation of Chamber Members: Jo Beth announced that Kolton Hewlett has accepted a new job in Des Moines, and will be moving at the end of October. Kolton mentioned that he would continue as Secretary/Treasurer through the end of the year.

Marcia McAlpin announced her retirement from Great Western Bank, and notified the group that she and Larry will be moving to New Market at the beginning of November.

All in attendance thanked Kolton and Marcia for their service to Chamber, and expressed regret in seeing them go.

Hanging Baskets: Pat Vanderflute reported that all the hanging baskets have been taken down and are at her house. She expressed the need to explore a vehicle that could be used for watering next year. It was mentioned that a SCICF grant could be applied for. Shane Akers will talk to Damon Boyd/Dan Heffron about storage of the vehicle behind the old True Value building, or the old Leon Plumbing building.

Other Reports:

City of Leon: No city representative was present.

Decatur County Development: Shannon Erb reported that she is working with a start up in Davis City who would like to relocate to Leon, but is trying to find the best solution.

Visioning Committee: Shane Akers reported on the new backstop at the little league fields. He also noted that a tournament took place on the fields on October 1st and went well. It is hoped that these types of tournaments will continue to come to Leon. The next phase of the upgrades to the fields is the concrete around the fields and forming sidewalks to connect the fields.

LCDC: Shane Akers reported that the main project right now is the SWCC house. In addition, he mentioned that the city has set aside some of the local option sales tax money for housing, and Shane will work with Denise Simmons to see what can be done about the dilapidated housing.

Adjournment:

Heidi Bell made a motion, Jo Beth Smith seconded, to adjourn at 8:05 a.m. M/C

Attest:

Shannon Erb, Vice President