

Leon Chamber of Commerce

Meeting Minutes – December 2016

Call to Order:

Shane Akers called the regular meeting of the Leon Chamber of Commerce to order at 7:06 a.m. on Thursday, December 1, 2016, in the Decatur County Hospital conference room.

Roll Call:

Shane Akers, Shannon Erb, Jack De Pond, Sherry Decker, Heidi Bell, James Rowe, Marcia Stephens, Chris Coffelt, Doug Kouba, Tammy Heintz and Jo Beth Smith.

Secretary's Report:

Shannon Erb distributed minutes from the November meeting via email. Marcia Stephens made a motion, Jack De Pond seconded, to approve the minutes. M/C

Treasurer's Report:

Shane Akers presented the treasurer's report. As of November 30, 2016, we had \$56,260.53 cash-on-hand. \$7,525.81 in the general fund, \$35,269.16 in LCDC, \$5,613.20 in RLF, \$4,200.10 in the banner account, \$3,027.10 in the Decatur County Tourism account, and \$625.16 in the RABGRAI fund. Marcia Stephens made a motion, Jo Beth Smith seconded, to approve the financial report. M/C

Old Business:

Southern Iowa Tourism: Shannon Erb reported that many ads have been submitted for the Southern Iowa Tourism guide. Contact her at 641-442-6511 if you're interested in an ad.

Cool & Connected: Shannon Erb mentioned that she has had some interested in joining the Cool & Connected/Visioning Committee, so she will send an invitation to a meeting soon.

Leon Noel: Heidi reported that we are ready! The event will take place on Saturday, December 3 from 10am to 1 pm at the courthouse. A movie will follow at 1ish, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. As of the meeting time, there were 17 organizations signed up to put up a tree, and 5 businesses decorating windows. There will be 4-5 activities throughout the courthouse, plus the pictures with Santa and the library story time.

Lighting Contest: Shane presented information from the Lion's Club regarding the town holiday lighting contest. We will contribute \$75 towards the prize money, and Jo Beth Smith will recruit judges. Judging will be completed on Saturday, December 17th. The Lions Club will be in charge of marketing the contest.

Nominating Committee: Shannon reported that the nominating committee has a lot of ideas, but is not ready to present their recommendations. They will present at the next regular Chamber meeting, January 5th.

Committees for 2017/Dates: Shane reminded everyone of the dates for events in 2017. Discussion was had about the date for the Citizen of the Year banquet, and the date was changed from last month's meeting. The new date is February 2nd. It will be held at the Country Club.

New Business:

Membership/Banners: Shannon is working on membership forms for 2017. Existing members will get an invoice indicating what they owe this year, and a separate form will be created for new members. We will also order new banners in 2017, so once pricing is finalized; an option to order a new banner will be included on the form. Businesses that are up-to-date on their \$50 yearly maintenance fee will only need to pay the difference in the price of a new banner.

Centralization of Documents: Shane discussed an idea to partner with DCDC to house Chamber documents in that office in the courthouse in exchange for a small yearly fee. This is an idea that Shane will explore with other members of the

DCDC board, and just needed feedback on the idea. A number of \$100 annually sounded reasonable to those in attendance.

Website Maintenance: Shane indicated that we need someone to take over maintaining the Chamber website. Heidi will talk to Beth Saxton to see if she would be interested. Shannon also volunteered to help.

Safe Deposit Agreement/Checking Accounts: A discussion was had about miscellaneous items that need to be passed on each time new officers are elected. This includes things like legal documents, keys to the night drop box at the bank, checks, charge cards, etc. It was discussed that we will explore the centralization option with DCDC to see where that leads.

BBQ Contest: Marcia Stephens presented an opportunity for Leon to host a sanctioned barbeque contest. Details for the event were provided to all chamber members via email on 12/1/16. Marcia and Shannon volunteered to help plan the event if we are interested. We will discuss this more at the January meeting after members have had a chance to review the details of the program.

Other Reports:

City of Leon: Joe Stephens reported that he, Marcia, Shane and Shannon has a meeting with a representative from a company who helps community implement renewable energy solutions. Shane and Shannon are exploring this option further, and will bring in more players as a more solid plan gets in place.

Decatur County Development: Shannon Erb reported that there are many positive things happening with economic development in the county right now, but not much she can talk about. Shane did remind everyone that the SWCC house is moving along, and the students should be working on laying the floor and erecting walls over the next week.

Adjournment:

Shannon Erb made a motion, Jo Beth seconded, to adjourn at 8:28 a.m. M/C

Attest:

Shannon Erb, Vice President