

Winneconne Area Chamber of Commerce

Member Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2008, 6:00 p.m.

Municipal Center

Meeting called to order by President Helen Thomson.

Present: Mary Jo Winkenwerder, Andy Beiser, Dave Norton, Kathy Grace, John Bartow, Amy Verkuilen, Steve McNeil, Becky LaDue, Sue Brooks, Steve Brooks, Jane Waniger, Jeff Liebzeit, Gloria West, David Yonke, Helen Thomson

Approval of minutes – Motion made by Dave Norton, second by Andy Beiser to approve the minutes of 3/6/08

Adopt agenda – Motion by Dave Norton, second by Steve Brooks to approve the agenda.

Secretary's report – Mary Jo reported that interviews will be done next Wednesday; they hope to have someone hired shortly thereafter.

Treasurer's report – Regular checking balance: \$7856.27; Fishing account: \$1784.18; Raffle account: \$9608.76. Have not yet transferred any money from gift certificate account. Mary Jo questioned whether new list for gift certificates can be compiled after memberships are paid for 2008. Dave reported that Cindy has all the tax information and should have it filed in time. Motion made by Steve Brooks, second by Andy Beiser to approved treasurer's report.

President's Report: Helen & Amy Verkuilen are visiting every business on Main Street and will be doing outlying businesses in the near future.

Helen presented idea for doing one poster for all Chamber events, showed example of one

from Berlin. Will try to have this accomplished by the end of the month.

Helen reported that the board approved \$300 budget for each of the following committees: Membership, raffle, Holiday on the Wolf, Car show, Carnival/Rummage Sale.

Committee reports:

Car show: will be held on June 7th, the committee will be meeting on April 9th. Waiting for vote from the DOT to allow closing of Main Street. Helen appeared at the Police & Fire Committee meeting and at the Village Board meeting, she contacted DOT by phone and has mailed the application for approval. Had to make concession to the Police & Fire to get approval, concessions include the Chamber paying for two police officers and having volunteers to help with traffic control. Also had to agree that there would be no youth activities at Waterfront Park, but suggestion was made that children's game could be held somewhere in the closed area of Main Street.. Street closing from 1st to 3rd Street. Detour north on 1st Street to Birch, west to 7th Street, south to Main Street. Suggestion was made to check with St. Paul's as to the possibility of using their parking lot. Would like businesses to be involved, suggesting a 50s/60s theme. Upper Lakes Kid's Fisheree is to be the same day, do cross publicity.

Carnival/Rummage Sale: Have been passing out rummage sale signup sheets while visiting the businesses on Main Street. Rummage sale will be two days, May 17th & 18th. Hoping to have carnival at Waterfront Park if conditions permit it.

4th of July: need to get letters to organizations requesting nominations for name in lights, also need letter asking for donations.

Holiday on the Wolf: Date set as December 6th.

Fishing tournaments: may need volunteers for two of the tournaments

Visitor's guide: Andy asked for volunteers for committee. Dave Norton & John Bartow volunteered.

Membership: Andy reported that membership letters will be going out soon. Committee is forwarding the desire to prorate new memberships for second 6 months of membership years. Motion made by Mary Jo Winkenwerder, second by Dave Norton to do so. Becky

LaDue mentioned seeing ad in another newspaper where the Chamber thank businesses by name for renewing. Tim Scheider has an idea about referrals.

Triathlon: Gloria West attended meeting, would like to attend Aug. 7th Chamber meeting to follow-up on any plans made between now and then. Will be held Aug. 9th & 10th at Lake Winneconne Park. Maps were distributed. Chamber has guaranteed 25 volunteers and will receive \$1000. Registration forms are being printed.

Old/New Business:

Steve McNeil told us that the Village is what you see, there isn't anything more to see. Need for annexation. Economic Development Workshops were held, importance of Chamber was general consensus. Steve noted the most difficult part of his job is to make decisions in a vacuum. He pointed out the future land use map.

John Bartow said that during an internet committee meeting there had been a discussion regarding a small business development committee – like a small business meet & greet. John volunteered Dennis Reimer to chair. Motion by John Bartow, second by Andy Beiser to jointly form a small business committee with the village and the school system. Andy & Mary Jo expressed interest in being on the committee.

Web page update – John noted that the internet committee had met to talk about the rejuvenation of the website. The first thing was the calendar which was done with the help of Dave Yonke. John reminded everyone that the presentation is only as good as the content. He contacted chambers & web developers as well as writers and photographers for our site. Many developers want to not only help with the page design but want to host the site, problem is that developers come and go and the site may be lost. John stressed that the Chamber wants to maintain local control of their site. Various ideas were presented regarding member listings and links; calendars for multiple organizations, having non-members pay to have links on site, the possibility of spotlighting a business for a cost. Motion was made by Sue Brooks, second by Steve Brooks to give the internet committee \$1500 seed money. Andy volunteered for the internet committee.

The next Chamber meeting will be May 1st at noon at the Village Pub..

Motion by Dave Norton, second by Mary Jo Winkenwerder to adjourn.

- Minutes taken by Kathy Grace