

West Union Main Street & Chamber  
Board Meeting – April 14, 2015  
6:45 AM at the Chamber Office

Present: Bob Sadler, Jon Biederman, Amy Christensen, Karla Organist, Greg Ptacek, Gail Hackman, Jennifer Tobin, Mike Johnson, Jane Blumhagen, Carolyn Weber, Carolyn Havenstrite, Amie Johansen, and Patti Heuton.

Absent: John Pleggenkuhle, Melody Patrick, and Allison Moschel.

The meeting was called to order by Bob at 6:47 AM.

- I. Amie moved to approve the agenda, second by Jon, approved.
- II. Karla moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting, second by Jane, approved.
- III. Reorganization

Greg said the two committees met and went over examples of bylaws. Melody is working on drafting a proposal for the committee to review, taking the Main Street bylaws and amending them.

Bob got a call from Kent Halverson who suggested a meeting between Kent, Teresa, and Community Development to discuss the best way to improve lines of communication. Bob will let us know when a time has been set and encouraged as many as possible to attend.

IV. Financial Reports

a. Karla presented the Financial Report.

Encouraged with the pledge revenue so far, some follow-up will be needed in order to secure the balance of approximately \$7,000; our budget is \$22,000. Bob suggested Karla make a list of those who need follow-up, that we split it up, and each of us make a few contacts. Greg moved to accept the financial report, second by Carolyn Weber, approved.

b. Chamber Financial Report. Diva Days made a \$99.87 profit. The figures on Divas & Dining are not all in yet. Amie thought it would be good for the board to have a list of our financial supporters so when planning events we can direct more effort toward them. Also knowing which businesses are not yet supporting financially can help us to gather their support. Karla reminded board members to give personally; the amount is not key, but rather 100% participation. Also, a reminder that if you are both a board member and a business owner giving as both, rather than one or the other, is strongly encouraged and appreciated. Greg moved to accept the Chamber Financial report, second by Amy Christensen, approved.

c. We have 3 lines of credit that need to be extended. Karla so moved, second by Jane and approved. Greg Ptacek abstained.

d. Gus says the sale should be completed in days.

e. Approval for final payment to Matt Construction was discussed. We are waiting on a letter from the architect stating that the project is complete and the retainage is ready to be released. Jon will contact the architect to see what the status is. Amie will follow-up with Derek. Greg moved we table all the financial items e through p on the agenda until we get further information. Second by Carolyn Havenstrite, approved. Bob scheduled a brief meeting to approve the financials next Tuesday, April 21, at 7 AM.

V. Committee Reports – Minutes from committees were made available  
Bob let us know about the July 16, 17, and 18 Tractor Ride, which will be in WU. He suggested we let businesses know that there will be 150 – 200 people staying in town and at the fairgrounds. We discussed asking the musician extend an hour of Playin' on the Plaza the 16<sup>th</sup>.

VI. Main Street Awards May 1<sup>st</sup>. Tomorrow is the last day to RSVP. The table arrangement was discussed; Gail was asked to make it.

VII. Annual Visit Tuesday May 12. Darlene Strachen will be in WU all day. She will meet with Bob and with Jennifer, and with the four committees. This visit will be informal and the committees may all meet with her at the same time, in contrast to the formality of last year. She will offer a 2 hour mini orientation in the early evening. She does not have an agenda and wants to hear from us how Main Street Iowa can best serve us.

VIII. Fall Workshop September 29 and 30

We can use the time with Darlene on May 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss the details of West Union's part in hosting the fall workshop. The 29<sup>th</sup> is to be a lecture/classroom day in Elkader. The 30<sup>th</sup> is to be in WU and will be for touring and fun. Dick suggested that we host an informal social on the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> for those coming in from out of town. Amie suggested using the Tapt Out bus to take people around. There might be approximately 100 – 150 people.

IX. Other Business

Jennifer had a question about a Yellow Pages bill.

Bob went to the city council meeting and plans to regularly attend the meetings.

Everyone was asked to bring a name suggestion to our next meeting. So far the suggestions include: WuHu and Main Street Chamber.

X. Our next meeting will be May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 AM in the Chamber office.

Greg moved to adjourn, second by Carolyn Weber, approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 AM

Respectfully submitted by Patti Heuton, Secretary