

Chamber/Main Street Board Meeting
June 9, 2015 6:45 AM

Members present: Carolyn Havenstrite, Jane Blumhagen, Carolyn Weber, Karla Organist, Amy Christensen, Dick Woodard, Greg Ptacek, Mike Johnson, Melody Patrick, Jennifer Tobin, Gail Hackman, Patti Heuton and Bob Sadler.

Bob called the meeting to order at 6:48 AM

I. Agenda

Dick moved to approve the agenda; Greg seconded. Motion carried.

II. Minutes of Last Meeting

Greg moved to approve the minutes; Jane seconded. Motion carried.

III. Reorganization

Karla reported that at the Community Development meeting they discussed joining us as a fifth committee. There is a process and it will be on their agenda for their next meeting. Karla asked us if as a board we want them to join us in that way. Melody answered yes. There was no further discussion.

IV. Financial Reports

a). Main Street – Karla mentioned that we need to transfer approximately \$4,000 from Main Street to Chamber to pay that half of Jennifer's salary. Karla brought up the need to take \$2,000 out of the Downtown Revit to cover the cost of the needed tuck pointing and she mentioned that we made a large loan payment to sub recipient.

Mike moved to approve the Main Street financial report. Greg seconded. Motion carried.

b). Chamber Financials – Contributions are coming in for sponsorships . We need to create a list of members, split it up between board members, and each of us personally contact those who still have not paid their dues. Jennifer will email an interactive google doc to us so we can electronically sign up.

Mike moved to approve the Chamber financials. Melody seconded. Motion carried.

V. Questions on Committee Reports (Minutes were attached)

Organization – Greg asked if Echo Valley had been sold. That could possibly impact Dueling Pianos. It has not been sold but members were sure that if it does sell before our event, that the contract would be honored, so we don't need to look for another venue. Still looking to add teams for the upcoming golf tournament June 27th, also looking for sponsors. There will be something in the paper about it this week.

Design – Karla asked about public art, about painting a mural on the north side of Ray Steffens' building on Vine St, which has been exposed since Gus and Tony's burned down. Jennifer will contact Ray Steffens about it.

Promotions – The July 16th Block Party was discussed. Bob gave us an idea of the route for the tractor parade after the music is done at 8 PM. It will split and go two different directions so more of the town will be covered and the tractors will be able to keep moving.

Business Improvement – The judges for the Open For Business competition did a good job, though choosing a winner was not easy. Our submission, Unionland, will pitch at the regional level later this month.

VI. Goals

Bob suggested we implement committee goals. He would like to communicate our goals when he reports at the City Council meetings. Each committee was asked to come up with goals for that purpose.

Fall Workshop Wed. Sept.30 – Bob told that the Catholic Daughters would do a lunch for us. We will rent a hall for the workshop that day; Main Street Iowa covers the cost of it as well as up to \$20 per attendee for meals. 122 is willing to hold a breakfast on that day. Jennifer and Bob are working on the schedule. On Tuesday evening we will host a little something for those staying in WU. Dick will look into it, Mike offered to help him. The entire board is asked to set aside that whole day to attend and to help out. We will need to provide bars and cookies for the breaks also. All the state directors should be here, as well as many board members from across the state. We are expecting approximately 75 to attend. We are hosting the workshop so we want to do a great job.

VII. Other Business

Mike asked if we are still thinking of a name change. The one solid suggestion stands as WEST UNION COMMUNITY CONNECTED. We cannot make it official as yet but discussed trying it out for a few months. Jennifer will change her phone greeting to reflect the change. The tag line must be Main Street & Chamber organizations. Mike moved we try out the new name; Gail seconded. Carried. Dick reported that we got the certificate for the National Historic Registry. Dick said that next month we should be able to finally celebrate the sale of the bus barn. There was no other business.

VIII. Next Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday July 14th at 6:45 AM.

Melody moved to adjourn; Mike seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 AM.

Submitted by Patti Heuton