

West Union Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors Meeting
MINUTES – October 11, 2011

Members present: Deb Merrill, Jackie Loomis, Melody Patrick, Jenni Elsbernd, Bill Ziegler, Brent Parker, Lisa Miller

Judy Roach was present to talk about the Festival of Lights

There was a discussion on possible fund raising. Checking into available grants.

They have received street decorations from Calmar and reworked them.

Talk about where the electric is located at the Rec Center and the grant to add some more yet this fall.

The day after Thanksgiving is their kick off date.

Need to schedule a date to set up, with a rain date so people can get it marked on their calendars. Will need a boom truck and volunteers.

An ad can be put in the Chamber newsletter about the set up and kick off.

Chamber has coloring books they will donate to the event. Will check how many we have and if we need to get a few more.

Talked about concentrating radio ads in November. Usually use those ads for the punch card promotion. See if there's a way to incorporate the Festival of Lights with those ads.

Last year Moore's donated the hot chocolate, Hawkeye Foods also donated.

Would like to use gazebo at Rec Center if possible. Merrill Nerum donates use of his sled.

We could use something to break the wind while Santa visits. Will talk to Norm Einck to see if he has any ideas.

Will check into posting a sign for NO Snowmobilers in the Rec Center.

Will be selling Christmas cards and sweatshirts as fund raiser.

Financial –

There's over \$4,000 in the fireworks fund.

Chamber savings account has \$450.

Need to check and make sure everyone who is supposed to be paying rent at the Chamber building has paid.

Building Update –

Stucco is being worked on.

Waiting for the windows for the front of the office.

Need to check with Marv Smith on finishing the electrical work needed.

Checking on options to make the Chamber office handicap accessible.

Ryan has the plants for the roof and is taking care of them. Will plant them after the stucco work is done. Hopefully, Oct. 24-28.

Regional Chamber Event – Bill is on e-mail list. Event is next week. He plans on going.

Motion was made by Brent Parker to add Bill Ziegler's name to West Union Chambers accounts at both First National Bank and Kerndt Brothers Savings Bank. Bill need to sign the signature cards at both banks. Second by Melody. Passed.

Holiday punch card retail meeting is on Thursday.

Have had 23 applicants for staff position. Jenny is working with Bill on reviewing these. They used a number system to grade them. Have narrowed it down to 6 applicants. Will set up a time to interview these people. They should be able to have a choice by Monday.

October 28th is Gary Sandholm's last day.

Chamber banquet is set for January 21, 2012 at Country Hills. Their cost for the meal is \$11.00 a plate. That's in line with what was paid last year. That would include the rental cost too. Should be a theme, but don't need to have entertainment. Possibly connect it with the Punch card theme or Deeply connected. Put note in newsletter to 'save the date'. Discussion on adding Business of the Year category. Talked about the first one being the business that has been a member of the Chamber for the longest time. Country Hills could make the appetizers and dessert, but we will be asking for sponsors like in the past at \$50 each. Had 8 sponsors last year. Checking on cost of dessert.

Next meeting is November 18, 2011.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Merrill, Secretary