

Marion County Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors' Meeting

November 16, 2017

The Marion County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met at the Western Sizzlin at noon on November 16, 2017. Board members in attendance were Vice-President Brett Del Balso, Past President Jamie Lawson, and board members Todd Mistrot, Nick Holcomb and Vickie Messer.

Please note that those in attendance did not constitute a quorum.

Others in attendance were Andrew Lawrence with Colonial Chemical, Terry Kerlin with First Choice Storage, Whitwell Police Chief Mark Tillery, Deanna Stott with Hospice of Chattanooga, Donny Case with Creative Consultants, Sonya McShan with Erlanger Hospital, David Riley with Marion Newspapers, Dannie Bradford with UT/TSU Extension, Sam Pratt, 4-H student at SPES, Julie Pratt, Amanda Pratt, and Judy Blevins, administrative assistant for the chamber.

In the absence of President Patrick O'Hagan, Vice-President Brett Del Balso called the meeting to order and recognized guests and members in attendance.

A motion was made by Todd Mistrot and seconded by Jamie Lawson to approve the minutes from the October 19, 2017 board meeting. Due to lack of a quorum present, an e-vote was taken following the meeting. See addendum at the end of the minutes for results of e-voting. A copy of the October minutes is on file in the chamber office and can be found on the chamber's website.

Financial Report:

Judy Blevins presented the "Income and Expense Report" for the month of October 2017, "Income and Expense Report" for fiscal year through October 31, 2017, and "Account Balances Report" as of October 31, 2017. Copies were distributed to all present and are on file with the minutes. Motion was made by Jamie Lawson and seconded by Nick Holcomb to approve the financial report. See addendum for result of e-voting.

Old Business:

A. Anti-Litter Campaign

Dannie Bradford, a Marion County 4-H leader, explained the "Nobody Trashes Tennessee" curriculum recently presented to all 4-H classes in Marion County schools. Lesson plans were developed by the University of Tennessee and are now available to 4-H programs statewide. As part of the learning process, each homeroom was instructed to enter a "4-H Trash Pizza Contest" in which "pizzas" were made from litter collected

by the students. Dannie brought three pizza finalists and asked the chamber to choose the winner.

Also at the meeting today was Sam Pratt, a student at SPES, who presented his speech on litter prevention.

The chamber applauds Marion County UT/TSU Extension for their part in educating Marion County students about litter and why it is important to prevent litter.

It was reported that on Saturday, November 18th, Parkridge West will be picking up trash along the stretch of Highway 41 which has been adopted by Parkridge. The chamber thanks Parkridge and encourages others to join the litter prevention campaign.

B. Report from Events & Tourism Committee

Brett Del Balso reported that the members of the recently formed Events & Tourism Committee (Patrick O'Hagan, Brett Del Balso and Garret Faugot) met to discuss the event options for the chamber. Two events which are in preliminary planning are a 5K/10K race in the fall of 2018 and a golf tournament in the spring of 2018.

The golf tournament would take place at Sweetens Cove Golf Course and would seek sponsors and local participants/teams. Several chamber members expressed excitement at the possibility of a golf tournament. Sonya McShan on behalf of Erlanger has worked with other chambers who have had golf tournaments and would be happy to provide helpful contacts. Andrew Lawrence indicated that Colonial Chemical would be interested in participating.

Based on interest expressed in today's meeting, the committee will proceed with more detailed planning and will report at the next board meeting.

Note that David Riley has agreed to be a member of the Events & Tourism Committee.

New Business:

A. Membership Application

The following membership applications have been received and reviewed by the Membership Committee which recommends approval by the board:

- Manpower of Chattanooga
- Erik McDaniel
- Shellmound Campground

Todd Mistrot made a motion to accept all three applications. Jamie Lawson seconded the motion. See addendum for result of e-voting.

Mayors' Reports:

Todd Mistrot addressed the chamber on behalf of the City of Whitwell. He reported that the city has a new website, www.cityofwhitwell.org. Mr. Mistrot also invited the public to attend the City of Whitwell Christmas Parade which will be on Saturday, December 9th, beginning at 4:00 PM CST. Following the parade, there will be caroling, lighting of the Christmas Tree and other festivities at the Whitwell City Park.

Whitwell has submitted two grant applications. One is a "Thriving Communities Grant" in partnership with Whitwell Schools. The focus of this grant would be to develop a coal miners park around the "Big John" statue erected this past summer.

The second grant submitted is through the Tennessee Department of Health and would provide for resurfacing of the current walking track as well as to extend the track down Hwy 28 to the city park.

Miscellaneous:

Judy Blevins shared a letter received from the Tennessee River Rescue thanking the chamber for being a sponsor of the cleanup event on October 7, 2017. A copy of the letter is on file with the minutes.

Announcements

Announcements were reviewed as distributed. A copy is on file with the minutes.

David Riley mentioned an event not listed with the printed announcements. On December 8th, Marion Newspapers is sponsoring a free showing of "It's a Wonderful Life" at the Princess Theater at 7:00 PM CST. Donations will be accepted for the South Pittsburg Parks – Moore Park and Lloyd Park.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

There will be no meeting in December. Next monthly board meeting will be January 18, 2018 at noon at the Western Sizzlin.

Minutes submitted by Judy Blevins

Reviewed by Vice-President Brett Del Balso

Addendum to Meeting – E-Vote Results

On November 17, 2017 an request for e-vote was sent to all board members with attachments of the financial report and membership applications as well as a reference to minutes on the website.

Motion to accept minutes from the October 19, 2017 Board Meeting – voting “yes” to accept were Vicki Messer, Brett Del Balso, Todd Mistrot, Kathie Tierney, Joyce Burkhalter, Walker Henley, Patty Henry, Nick Holcomb, and Jamie Lawson.

Motion to approve financial report from the month of October 2017 – voting “yes” to accept were Vicki Messer, Brett Del Balso, Todd Mistrot, Kathie Tierney, Joyce Burkhalter, Walker Henley, Patty Henry, Nick Holcomb, and Jamie Lawson.

Motion to approve application for membership from Manpower of Chattanooga, Erik McDaniel, and Shellmound Campground – voting “yes” to accept were Vicki Messer, Brett Del Balso, Todd Mistrot, Kathie Tierney, Joyce Burkhalter, Walker Henley, Patty Henry, Nick Holcomb, and Jamie Lawson.

There were no votes to the contrary. All three motions carried via e-vote.