

Marion County Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors' Meeting

July 19, 2018

The Marion County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met at the Western Sizzlin at noon on July 19, 2018. Board members in attendance were Vice -President Bret Del Balso, President- Elect Kathie Tierney, Treasurer Shelby Potterfield and board members Patty Henry, Nick Holcomb, Walker Henley, Garrot Faugot, and Joyce Burkhalter.

Others in attendance were Andrew Lawrence with Colonial Chemical, Brice Burkhalter with First Volunteer Bank Whitwell Branch, Marion County Mayor David Jackson, and Judy Blevins, administrative assistant for the chamber.

Vice-President Brett Del Balso called the meeting to order and recognized guests and members in attendance.

A quorum of board members was present.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Jamie Lawson and seconded by Patty Henry to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2018 board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

Shelby Potterfield presented the "Income and Expense Report" for the month of June 2018, "Income and Expense Graph" from August 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 and "Account Balances Report" as of July 18, 2018. Copies were distributed to all present and are on file with the minutes. Motion was made by Kathie Tierney and seconded by Nick Holcomb to approve the financial report as presented. Motion passed without dissent.

Old Business:

A. Anti-Litter Campaign

Colonial Chemical reported that their next quarterly litter pickup on the adopted highway stretch in New Hope will be on Saturday, July 21st. Mayor Jackson added that GreenSteps is planning a pick-up on Suck Creek Mountain that same day.

B. Report from 2018 Banquet Committee

The venue has been confirmed as Pat Summit's Pavilion at Jasper Highlands. Flyers were distributed to those present. Tickets (\$35 each) are on sale now. Each board member and committee member has a list of persons to contact. Tickets are also available at the chamber office. David Carrol will be the guest speaker. A DJ has been confirmed. Confirmation of a caterer has not yet been confirmed. Moss Motors will provide two golf carts for the event.

Kathie Tierney has spoken with American Legion Post 62 to provide a cash bar for alcoholic drinks as a fund raiser for the post. The banquet committee will discuss at the next meeting. More details will be available in the next few days.

Members were reminded that 2018 nominations for Business of the Year and Citizen of the Year were due by 4:30 PM CDT on July 20th. Copy of forms were attached to the agenda.

New Business:

A. Request for Sponsorship

Marion County Fair: The chamber has received a letter from the Marion County Fair Board requesting that the chamber again sponsor at the gold level of \$1,000. Copy of letter was attached to the agenda. Joyce Burkhalter, Marion County Fair Board Member, gave an update on events scheduled for this year's fair. Jamie Lawson made a motion that the chamber sponsor at the gold level. Kathie Tierney seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously. Copy of letter is on file with minutes.

2018 Outboard Drag Boat Associations World Championship Drag Boat Race: The chamber has received a letter from the Greater Jasper Jaycees requesting sponsorship of the 2018 Outboard Drag Boat Associations World Championship Drag Boat Race which will be at Marion County Park on October 13th and 14th. Joyce Burkhalter made a motion to sponsor the race as a lane sponsor for \$2,500. Patty Henry seconded the motion. There were no dissenting votes. Copy of letter is on file with minutes.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor David Jackson reported that the seven SRO positions previously approved by the county commission to be in Marion County schools have been filled. Ten new patrol cars have been ordered for the officers. Until all cars have been delivered some officers may travel by private cars.

Sequatchie Valley Bike Trail is in the planning stages for a three county area. The goal is to add to our tourism draw as well as to provide a trail for local bike riders.

County Commission has passed and the state comptroller's office has approved the county budget for the coming fiscal year with no property tax increase.

The new building at Chattanooga State has been completed. The county has received an insurance settlement amount of \$813,000 as a result of fire at the "old" Chattanooga State building on Battle Creek Rd. The plan is for the county to sell that building.

Mayor Jackson commented that the Marion County Farmer's Market is open for business to local farmers with locally grown produce. There is a \$10 registration fee.

Mayor Jackson cautioned about the dangers of canoeing or kayaking near Ketner's Mill. Sadly, a gentleman lost his life there this weekend. We also remember the anniversary of three previous drownings there in July 2015. Mayor Jackson said that he and others are working with the owner of the mill to determine how to increase safety there.

Mayor Jackson informed us that there is a new manager at Marion County Park.

Mayor Jackson is looking into the possibility of an "Express Y" or "Y-Camp" similar to those in operation in Ooltewah, Cleveland and Chattanooga.

Miscellaneous

During sharing time, Shelby Potterfield gave an update on the progress of SVEConnect. It has begun with test cases in a few homes in South Pittsburg. SVEC is working on additional state grants to expedite broad band service to the Griffith Creek, Sequatchie Mountain, South Pittsburg Mountain/Orme, and Battle Creek/Sweetens Cove/Fish Trap.

Garret Faugot was pleased to announce that a trade mark for SOCUMO is in the process of being approved. He also encouraged folks to attend the 59th Annual Monteagle Mountain Market for Arts and Crafts which will be July 28th and 29th.

Brett Del Balso announced that every Saturday at 9:00 AM CDT there is a Mountain Goat Trail parkrun in Sewanee. It is a free 5k timed run.

Mayor Jackson encouraged folks to attend Blue Grass Underground in Pelham. He went recently and thought it was great!

Announcements

Upcoming events were listed on the back of the agenda.

Next chamber coffee is scheduled for August 14th and is being hosted by City of Whitwell and Orena Humphreys Library at the Coal Miner's Museum.

Next monthly board meeting will be September 20, 2018 at noon at the Western Sizzlin.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Judy Blevins

Reviewed by Vice-President Brett Del Balso