

SOBOCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES 7/14/2011

The Southern Boone Chamber of Commerce board meeting was called to order by Jody Frank, Secretary at 8:05 a.m. Thursday, July 14, 2011 in the BCNB Community room.

Seven Board Members were present including Jody Frank, Wade Middaugh, Bruce Wallace, Kim Ponder, Rod Green, Bridget Canaday, and Martha Johnson.

The minutes from the previous board meeting in June were not available but will be posted on the website after approved at the August meeting. The treasurers report was viewed and approved by the group.

The board discussed the need for a succession plan for the 2012 year and potential interested members and nominees for the officer and board positions.

The Membership committee will be meeting after the board meeting and will report at the next meeting.

Bridget will meet with Charlotte to look at the progress on the strategic plan thus far. Then as a group we need to finalize the plan as soon as possible.

No one was available from the Economic Development Committee to report.

Kim announced the July program is planned for the Optimist Building with guest speaker, Gary Lafoon, Missouri Core to discuss strategies for economic development in our community. They have had 50 responses so far and a lot of interest. Donna Zumwalt has been able to collect many donations from local businesses for the raffle drawing that evening. Wade is planning on sending a reminder email everyday.

The banner committee has confirmed that all of the current banners are up around town. They have some great design ideas for the new banners that are planned to go up in April of 2012. Linda Goetting is developing a prototype for the spirit flags for the committee to review in hopes that they will be available for purchases prior to the first home football game. The Boy Scouts agreed to allow businesses to use their brackets and the committee is still looking at poles. They are going to try to talk to Sentinal to see if they have anything available.

Due to August being a busy month with school starting and a desire by some members to to have a regular business meeting open to all members the board agreed to combine the monthly board meeting with a general business meeting on Thursday, August 18th. Time and place to be announced.

The group agreed to each ask at least 5 new people to attend the upcoming economic development event.

There are several upcoming community events including the PTA Back to School Night, Movie in the Park on at dark August 13th, The Ashland Fall Fest all day September 10th, and The Cattleman's Rodeo August 26th & 27th. The board agreed to sponsor a bounce house at the Fall Fest and the Saturday morning parade during the Rodeo as they have the last several years.

Kim had an idea to send the Chester Ross Construction crew out of Hannibal a packet to promote our community. They have been chosen to construct the new interchange on HWY 63. There could be many many employees looking for eatery options during their stay. We would like to encourage them to chose Ashland. Chris Kelly has mentioned their will be a "dirt turning" ceremony but no specifics on when and we would like to have a good Chamber showing during that event.

The Southern Boone Middle School has broke ground on the new cafetorium and the High School has started construction on the 4 new classrooms. Both projects are expected to be ready the beginning of the 2012/13 school year.

Rod Green mentioned the shrubs next to the welcome to Ashland sign have died and will contact Cindy Carr with the Garden Club to see if she can replace these for us with plans to buy them locally.

Martha announced that the brand new Boone Hospital patient tower is now open. Martha would be happy to give tours to anyone interested. Its 128 private rooms including a cardiac unit, ICU, and amazing technology. They are also upgrading some of the existing rooms now that the tower is open.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.