

**Minutes
Jasper County Chamber of Commerce**

April 13, 2017

Members Present:

Russell Hicks
Linda Simmons
Carol Ann McMichael
Mandi Tanner
Leah Dumas
Dr. Mike Newton
Tony Lewis
Monica Loftin
Lathadra Sands
Tom Joye
Tracey Nelson
Towonder Dennis
Pam Mayer
Katie Cannon

Members Absent:

Dana Leach
Jeff Greeson
Mike Benton
Skip Davis

The meeting was called to order in the council chambers by Tony Lewis. A prayer was given by Dr. Mike along with everyone standing for the pledge of allegiance.

Pam asked that item f: "Deer Festival" be added to the agenda. A motion was made by Tracey to add item f; it was seconded by Linda, all approved.

A motion was made by Linda to approve the March minutes after making two corrections, it was seconded by Tom, all approved.

Tracey reviewed P & L comparison for January 1 through April 12, 2017 pointing out that the increase was due to an increase in membership. The current balance at the Bank of Monticello is \$33,693.24. Account at Hamilton Bank remains the same as last month. A motion was made by Carol Ann to accept this comparison, it was seconded by Leah, all approved.

BUSINESS:

Under membership drive, Pam stated that our membership is up to 136 with 14 cornerstone members. In conjunction with the Board Retreat, Tony asked that in August we call each member just to help keep them active. Leah suggested that we have an appreciation business of the month. It was pointed out that this was done through Coffee Call.

David Dyer and Pam spoke with the city regarding revitalizing the Downtown Development group. Pam stated there are two positions left to be filled hopefully by next month.

Tom stated that Shane Sealy with Planning and Zoning along with Mike Benton were working on a rough draft for the event ordinance. Pam stated she would be helping and reviewing with this.

Linda informed everyone that the Policy Committee, comprised of herself, Mike Newton, and Carol Ann, met, discussed, reviewed and made suggested changes to our current by-laws. Copy attached. It was suggested that salary and personnel changes be separate from the by laws. Pam pointed out that it is time for her annual review along with Katie's 90 day review on 5-1-17. The executive committee should handle this.

Pam stated that the Memorandum of Understanding was designed but never put in place. Dr Mike recommend Pam make an appointment with the County and City asking for an audit and to furnish them with a P&L statement.

The Chamber has been offered free event material if we take a lead in promoting "Keep Georgia Beautiful ". After some discussion it was agreed that this is not a responsibility of the COC.

Community Assistance Team met and are proud to announce that Jasper County has been selected as a pilot city to be involved with Community Development which includes tourism, more will be announced 5-22-17.

Pam was sad to announce to the Board of store closings around the square. Snap n Turtle, Mail and More, MeMes will be turned into a Probation office, Dr. Holman has moved her chiropractic office next to Primary Care, an Employment Agency is moving in, also a dance studio next door, and Monticello Drugs is moving off the square to the old Family Dollar building.

Tony asked that everyone call 2 people and bring a friend to coffee call on Thursday April 20th from 7:30am to 8:30 am at Yoder Door.

Leadership Jasper 2017 went to the Capitol last week and they plan to start meeting the 4th Tuesday of each month.

Tony reminded everyone of the Golf Tournament on 5-3-17. The Chamber will be giving \$500 for a whole in one since the offer from Conyers Honda feel through.

Pam reminded everyone that Market on the Square starts May 6th at 9:30am and runs through September 30th we have a lot more vendors this year.

It was voted for the chamber to sponsor a dock again this year for \$350 for the Poker Run on June 17th at Jackson Lake. The importance is promoting current businesses. The motion was made by Tom seconded by Tracey, all approved.

After viewing the two drawings for Deer Festival/Deer Dash t-shirt, the meeting was adjourned. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 11, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Ann McMichael, Secretary