

**Monticello Jasper County Chamber of Commerce  
Board of Directors Meeting August 6, 2015**

**Present:** Linda Simmons, Carol Ann McMichael, Pam Mayer, Peggy Billerman, Leah Dumas, Kathy Mudd, Towonder Dennis, Tracey Nelson, Mike Newton, Skip Davis, Lyndsy Holman, Mike Benton, Tom Joy, Rebecca Jacobson

**Absent:** Carol Atkinson, Tony Lewis, Dana Leach, Jeff Greeson

Welcome and Call to Order – Kathy

Invocation – Mike

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome to new members: Towonder Dennis, Tom Joy, Mike Benton

Motion by Skip to approve agenda, seconded by Carol Ann, all in favor

Motion by Peggy to approve July Minutes, seconded by Tracey, all in favor

Motion by Mike to approve Treasurer's Report, seconded by Linda, all in favor

**Old Business**

- Membership Update – currently have 139 members compared to 117 last year at this time.
- Farmer's Market – In June Children's Corner was reintroduced. Mayor Standifer will read books to the children this weekend. Mike Newton volunteered system to do "call-outs" to families in an effort to help promote the Market.
- New Brochure – design almost completed – we should have in 1-2 weeks.
- GACCE Leadership Conference – Main focus was what the Chamber of Commerce's role is in the community --- workforce development, leadership development, community development. We need to be the driving force in the community. Board agreed that we will purchase t-shirts to wear when we attend community functions

**New Business**

- Mercer Medical Students will visit on August 11. The Chamber will provide lunch from 12:30 to 1:30, business leaders will be invited all Board members are invited.
- Ribbon Cutting for Transformation Therapy at 5:15 pm August 27.

- Coffee Call – ACTION ITEM - This would be a networking event to highlight (1) business per month. Chamber would provide coffee and donuts to the specific business – possible cash door prize. Positive response by Board.
- Leadership Jasper – ACTION ITEM – discussion on holding a class in 2016. The class would meet once a week for 10-12 weeks. There are some start-up funds at the Bank of Monticello. Motion by Skip and seconded by Leah for chamber to take charge and begin promoting now in order to attract “young professionals”. Carol Ann will take charge of funds and be added to the signature card at Bank of Monticello, all in favor. **Leadership Committee:** Pam Mayer, Linda Simmons, Skip Davis
- First Friday Breakfast – September 4 at the Chamber 8:30-9:30 am Pam will update the invitation list.

### **Deer Festival**

- Parade – Invitations have been emailed/mailed
- Vendor Applications – have received 31 applications, we have 17 spaces for food vendors and have sold 14 of them.
- Deer Dash – 500 applications/registrations have been mailed, we have received 6 registrations
- Miscellaneous – Festival T-shirts will be ordered in September and we will begin selling them, Dash trophies will be ordered in September, we have purchased an ad in Lake Oconee Outdoors Magazine

### **President’s Update**

- Senior Citizens Bake Sale Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to Noon in the Visitors’ Center
- ACTION ITEM: Committees need to be updated. Propose that each person serve on two committees. The President serves on all committees except the Executive Committee.

### **Board Comments**

School begins August 14

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Vietnam (Veterans are being recognized)

Scholarships are available for students through the American Legion

Pam has surpassed goal for membership increase

Jackson Lake Poker Run – Food Bank and Lions Club received funds

Mentoring Program

Motion by Skip and seconded by Peggy to go into closed session for personnel, all approved. Motion by Linda and seconded by Skip to come out of closed session, all approved.

Motion by Lyndsy and seconded by Skip to hire Rebecca Jacobson as part-time staff to work 3 days per week (24 hours) at an hourly wage of \$12 and deduction of taxes, all approved.

Motion by Skip and seconded by Peggy to pay Pam the \$1000 Membership Incentive Bonus for surpassing the goal and to compensate her for hours worked at the Farmer's Market @\$10/hour, all approved.