

Chamber of Commerce in Culver
Board of Directors' Meeting August 25, 2009

The Chamber of Commerce in Culver board of directors met at 7:30 AM at the Culver Coffee Company. Present were Greg Fassett, president, Tony Sellers, Ralph Winters, Ron May, Ben Schaller and Rick Tompos. Members, Dawn Minas, Scott Huberty and Dick Brantingham were absent. Bobbie Ruhnow, executive secretary, was also present.

Old Business

Fassett noted the acceptance letter for inclusion in the Arts and Trails magazine had not been returned to the Marshall County Visitors Bureau. The MCVB will pay the \$100 fee. Ruhnow noted the letter had been given to Barb Linhart, manager of the market, and she will contact Linhart.

Mike Woolfington, director of MCVB, advised Fassett of ads placed in Midwest Living magazine and Chicago Tribune on behalf of Culver and Marshall County. Winters strongly urged that we continue our support of the Marshall County Visitors Guide with our \$2,000 full-page ad. Tompos suggested that we investigate a smaller ad for 2010 due to cost. Directors have not reviewed copies of the 2009 Visitors' Guide and Fassett will talk to Woolfington to secure copies.

New Business

Directors agreed that the Taste of Culver project would be scheduled for 2010 with Patty and Mike Stallings as chairman.

Revenue from the Farmers' Market is dedicated to replacing the existing tent. Schaller reported that \$630 had been received for to date from vendors.

Directors discussed the possibility of a larger tent due to the success of the market. It will be necessary to be sure the present lot is still available. Sellers checked the GPS and noted the lot is still in the present owner's name.

Tompos asked if the board agreed to ask the Academies' technician to make the tent. Unanimous approval was given. There will also be a sign posted at the site indicating that the market is a Chamber project.

Fassett reported the Nine and Wine golf outing resulted in \$900 revenue and suggested a similar event for 2010 with funds dedicated to a project. He also noted that the Chamber had been invited to have a booth at the Blueberry Festival. He suggested that this would give an opportunity to showcase the Culver Community and could be staffed with Chamber members. The existing Destination Culver on the web site will be reviewed to see if it would make an appropriate brochure for handing out at the booth.

Fassett also reported that the 2010 raffle sponsored by the Kiwanis will be for a Ford Mustang and the drawing will be held Labor Day weekend rather than Lake Fest weekend. The funds realized by the Chamber for the 2009 50-50 raffle was \$256.

There was a discussion regarding the Destination Culver newsletter. Ruhnow told the board that the maintaining of the 1577 subscriber list and addressing the envelopes for mailing was more complicated than she and her husband were equipped to handle. She agreed to one more mailing but asked for a solution. Tompos suggested that the solution be addressed ASAP. May agreed and said that Ancilla College has had success dealing with Town & Country Printers and will check to see if they would be interested in printing and mailing the winter issue of Destination Culver.

Schaller delivered the treasurer's report. The receipts year to date are \$14,948 with expenses totaling \$12,014. He projected that the surplus of \$2,933 plus an additional \$1,000 would be needed for expenses through December.

Winters updated the directors on the town council's storm water grant application. One has been denied and if granted, the second request would require a significant match by the town. A possible \$2.00 per household storm water fee may be imposed. He also reported that the bridge repair at the outlet from Lake Maxinkuckee would require \$110,000. To make an allowance for a possible bicycle path would require a 10' extension. A bicycle path is one of the projects being investigated by Culver's Second Century Committee. Winters will give a brief presentation at the September 1, dinner meeting at Gladie's.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 AM

Bobetta Ruhnow
Executive Secretary