

Chamber of Commerce in Culver

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

November 29, 2011

The board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce in Culver met for their monthly meeting at the Culver Coffee Co. with Dawn Brockey, president, Tony Sellers, vice-president, Ron May, Rick Tompos and Cheryl Rhodes in attendance. Bobbie Ruhnow, executive secretary was also present. Members absent were Dick Brantingham, Greg Fassett, Suzie Jamieson, Ben Schaller and Sue McInturff. Brockey opened the meeting at 7:30 AM.

Christmas in Culver

Held November 4 & 5, Christmas in Culver was successful and participants noted sales were the best to date. Brockey said that Al Collins had paid for the carriage rides offered and merchants had provided refreshments to shoppers. She thanked the efforts of Sue McInturff for coordinating the event.

Slate of Officers & Budget for 2012

The budget and slate of officers will be presented to the membership at the December 6th dinner meeting for approval. Schaller is preparing the budget and will e-mail it to the directors for review. The slate of officers and directors for 2012 will remain the same as 2011.

New Business

Discussions continue with Dana Neer regarding the proposed Triathlon. Further discussions of the Chamber's involvement will be held. May noted the importance of staffing many water stops for the proposed 150 participants.

Connie Hozlwart of the Blueberry Festival Committee contacted the Chamber office to advise that the theme for 2012 Festival will be "The Year of Giving". She asked what the Culver Chamber would like to support and promote. The directors agreed that the Culver Food Pantry should be the focus for contributions.

Brockey said she had received an e-mail from Patty Stallings asking the Chamber to sponsor a forum for debate on the wind turbine issue. The issue was discussed and directors agreed that this was an individual choice for each citizen to address and the Chamber would not be hosting a forum.

A discussion of the 3/50 program will be continued to the organizational meeting. The object is to choose to shop at three local businesses versus a national chain and spend \$50 per month at one of the three. The Chamber supports this program and it was noted in Chamber Chatter.

The National Ice Fishing Contest proposed to be held in Culver in late January or early February is still being considered. A possible donation from the Marshall County Visitors Bureau could help offset the projected cost of \$9,000. Discussions will continue and Sellers suggested contacting other host towns to see what their experience and costs were before making a final decision.

The Farmers' Market is closed for 2011 and the tent is still standing. Sellers suggested removing the canopy and leaving the support structure. He further suggested that next year, the tent be relocated to offset the sun shining directly on some of the vendors. He will contact Dr. Bailey Davis to see if there are any objections to allowing the structure to stand. Grand Central who was supposed to be in charge of erecting and removing the tent have not responded as promised. Sellers will assume the task and also, maintain the lot as Dr. Davis would like.

The cost to vendors of the Market was discussed. Directors agreed it is important to structure fees to maintain the cost of erecting and removing the tent as well as an escrow fund for tent replacement. A two tier fee was considered that would allow vendors outside the tent a lower cost. At the organizational meeting to be held January 7, from 9 to 12 at the Culver Coffee Co., fee structure will be determined. Ron May suggested that the vendors from Ancilla College be contacted in January for information on the Plymouth Farmers' Market costs.

Tony Sellers suggested approaching the park board for use of the Beach Lodge as a focal point in a possible Winter Carnival. He suggested more outside activity be promoted for kids and use of the Lodge in connection with ice skating or sledding in the park could be promoted by the Chamber. He noted that the Second Century Committee was promoting a Fitness Path which would coordinate with The Children Outside proposals.

May asked if the Nine and Wine event would be scheduled for 2012 and if so, he would provide 100 fresh oysters for the event. He promised extra oysters for the event coordinator, Greg Fassett.

There will be no board meeting in December and the organizational meeting for 2012 will be held on January 7 from 9 to 12 noon at the Culver Coffee Co.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 AM.

Bobbie Ruhnow
Executive Secretary