

KEYTESVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC
MEETING MINUTES
April 20, 2015

Present: Susan Littleton, Janet Weaver, Robert Wheeler, Amanda Webb, Nathan Asbury, Lowell Newsom, Terry Clark, Cele Sehlke, Dora Palmer

Meeting was called to order by President Cele Sehlke @ 6:35 pm. Janet Weaver moved, seconded by Terry Clark to approve the agenda as read. All in favor

Dora presented the minutes. One correction was noted regarding the demolition grant with the City. The grant has not been approved yet but is being applied for. It is a 60-40 match grant. The homeowners will put \$750 towards each house and business buildings will require \$4,000 match. There have been 34 houses designated to be demolished along with several commercial properties. All will have to consent. State won't even look at unless 85% consent. Ownership of the property after cleanup will be retained by the land owner. Cele said she offered the chambers help to talk to people to help get consent. Minutes stood approved after correction. Janet handed out a survey for us to complete to help the city get the grant.

Susan Littleton gave the financial report. Balances on hand are \$600.90.

No outstanding bills were presented.

The city wide garage sale is placing ads in the Shopper and on the electronic sign. It was reported that flyers have been placed around town, in Salisbury, Brunswick and Marceline. The Keytesville Library is going to move their annual plant and bake sale to the same day as the City Wide Garage Sales. Please pass the word.

By-Laws – the by-laws were read and discussed. Some changes were made. Dora will distribute a copy of the revised by-laws for review and approval at the next meeting.

Cele reported that she has spoken with Dr. Steven Jones and Tina Reichert from the neighboring towns of Glasgow and Brunswick for suggestions for growing the chamber. Nothing firm has been scheduled yet.

Website – the old website was discussed. Currently we can be on the City of Keytesville's website for approximately \$75 / year. There was discussion on whether to proceed with our own separate website. Chris Hughes and Lowell Newsom offered to donate/pledge the money required to do this. Janet moved, seconded by Donna Gheens to table this until we get a status update from Amanda Webb at the next meeting. All in favor

Amanda Webb has set up our Facebook page and is maintaining it for us. Thank you Amanda!

It was reported that the Chariton County Community Economic Development Forum on March 24, 2015 at the Keytesville High School was a good meeting. Several had attended and felt it was worthwhile. One of the main take-a-ways from the meeting was patience – change and growth will not happen overnight.

Grant options were discussed. Janet and Amanda report that there are a lot of grants but we need a clear objective before applying. Janet told us about a \$500 grant from US Bank that the Friends of Keytesville have received in the past.

It was discussed that we would try to start featuring a chamber member business each month and write an article for the paper. Hopefully people will begin to see this as a benefit to joining the chamber (free advertising) and want to join.

It was decided to join the Chariton Heritage Tours Inc.

Susan Littleton suggested that we look into hosting a wine stroll. Several local towns are having these and they are all having good turnouts with them.

The next meeting will be May 18 at a location to be determined. Terry Clark moved seconded by Lowell Newsom to adjourn at 8:25 pm. Minutes taken by Dora E. Palmer