

The Keytesville Chamber of Commerce met Mar.20 at noon at The Café with these members present: Laurinda Littleton, Megan Fox, Janet Weaver, Cele Sehlke, Dora Palmer, Terry Sehlke, Nancy Coy, Bob and Susan Littleton and joining later Shirley Piercy.

Sec. Janet Weaver read the secretary's report from the Feb. 13 meeting.

In the absence of the Treas. Lowell Newsom, Janet Weaver read the treasurer's report. Nancy Coy moved to approve the reports, Terry Sehlke seconded and all present voted favorably.

Under old business, it was asked if there was any news on the audit of the treasurer's books. Dora Indicated she hadn't heard if Cheryl Jackson was finished with them or not, but would ask about the status.

Under New Business, Pres. Littleton, mentioned an idea she had had about making a bouquet consisting of gift cards, prepaid credit cards etc. (worth approximately \$200-\$300) and then selling chances (\$10 ea.) on the item as a fund raiser. Members were receptive to the idea, and it was decided to give that fundraiser a try. Megan Fox moved to approve trying the bouquet of gift certificates/pre-paid credit cards, with Cele Sehlke seconding that motion. All present voted favorably. L. Littleton to get it together.

According to Pres. Littleton, Chris Hughes (affiliated with the KHS Alumni Banquet Committee) said he would ask if the Chamber could sell tickets on this bouquet at the upcoming Alumni Banquet on Apr. 15.

Pres. Littleton mentioned another idea she had heard about that involved selling chances on a \$50 Date Night package (dinner out at local restaurant-- maybe flowers on the table, etc.) She asked for the opinion of the group on that type of fundraiser and after a brief discussion, it was decided that it might be better to see how the bouquet of gift cards went over before embarking on another venture. That event was tabled for the time being.

In reference to committee assignments, it was decided that Lowell Newsom and Larry Pollard would be on the networking committee, Nancy Coy indicated she would be on the Publicity Committee, Events committee were Cele Sehlke and Susan Littleton, Bob Littleton as the City's Connection, and remaining on fund raising was Janet Weaver. As President, Laurinda Littleton appointed those people to said committees.

Pres. Littleton also spoke about an idea of presenting donuts to a different business each month, making personal contact to try and get more participation in the Chamber and indicated Littleton Trucking would be willing to buy the donuts for this project for the first year

Megan Fox moved that the Chamber try that technique, Shirley Piercy seconded the motion and all present voted favorably

Pres. Littleton also discussed the possibility of a Quarterly Newsletter about the Chamber and its activities. She felt if the newsletter was drawn up, printed and hand delivered personally to all the-members on the membership list, it might also keep members more fully apprised of happenings within the chamber and make them want to perhaps be more active participants. Cele Sehlke suggested the name of Chamber Chat for the proposed newsletter. She also indicated she had a computer program that would make the newsletter format easy to accomplish. Bob Littleton said he thought it was important for the perception of the general public to be that the Chamber was active and accomplishing things.

Some ideas mentioned that the Chamber might involve itself in during coming months could be: Checking with the Conservation Dept. regarding the likelihood of a walking trail in Maxwell Taylor park, Better housing availability in Keytesville—Pres. Littleton said she knew a man currently building duplexes in Marceline who may be interested in building something similar in Keytesville (since lots are available now since the demolition grant's first phase is concluded), also a Credit Union was thinking of maybe opening up an office here. Any or all of these might be something to keep in mind for future pursuits.

A letter was received from Bev Plymell soliciting an ad for the 2017-18 School Calendar. Susan Littleton moved and Bob Littleton seconded that the Chamber take out a \$25 ad (1/4 page) in the School Calendar. All present voted favorably.

The date for the Town Wide Garage Sale was discussed and May 6 seemed like the best day available for two reasons: 1. Comes close to the first of the month when many have money to spend 2. It would not interfere with H.S. Graduation May 13, Mother's Day May 14, and then further in the month one would be dealing with end of school activities and then Memorial Day. Janet Weaver would get in touch with Nathan Asbury to see if the Lions could do their food stand on that date. Then she would arrange with City Hall for the cutoff date for listing residences, get the ads in the paper etc, IF the 6<sup>th</sup> of May was acceptable.

Drawing held for the free membership 2018: City of Keytesville the winner  
Drawing held for the next honored Business of the Month: Land Learning Center  
Drawing held for the first donuts awarded: Keytesville Housing

Susan Littleton asked the question about what railroad was affiliated with the caboos that is in Maxwell Taylor Park. Janet Weaver said she would make an inquiry to Norman Bentley as he had been instrumental in acquiring the caboos for the park and likely he would know.

Bob Littleton said the newspaper notices regarding Phase 2 of the Demolition Grant would be coming out soon, then the contracts would be awarded and once awarded, the demolition had to be done within 60 days. He is optimistic that Phase 2 can be completed by July of 2017.

Movement to adjourn by Cele Sehlke and Susan Littleton seconding with the next meeting set for April 17, noon, at the Café. All in favor

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