

KEYTESVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2015

Members Present: Susan Littleton, Lowell Newsom, Amanda Webb, Janet Weaver, Robert Wheeler and Dora Palmer

In the absence of the president and vice president, the meeting was called to order by secretary Dora Palmer at 6:40 pm.

Susan Littleton moved and Lowell Newsom seconded to approve the Agenda as presented. All in favor

It was noted that we did not have a meeting in September due to conflicts as stated in the minutes. Lowell moved seconded by Janet to approve the minutes with this notation. All in favor

Susan Littleton gave the Treasurer's Report. We have a balance of \$549.90. No current outstanding bills. Janet moved seconded by Lowell to approve the treasurer's report. All in favor

Old Business –

- October Business of the Month - Have made contact with Tony and Becky and will do in November
- Dora gave certificates to Cele for the previous businesses of the month. (Do we need to start a scrap book or something with what we are doing?)
- WEB SITE Update – the website is up and running. There is a new addition to the website. The Finnell Foundation has added a page to the website with new versions of their applications. They will still be available for pickup at the bank but they can also now be printed off the website. Drop off will still be the bank. Their next meeting is tentatively December 17th.
- Update of Demolition Grant - Susan or Bob – Susan reported that the demolition grant was received and was 100% approved. There were 11 commercial businesses and 19 residential businesses. The grant total was \$200,000. The city put up \$10,000 in cash and \$9,700 in kind. The property owner's portion will be \$27,000. From the community center to the corner will be coming down. Also, three buildings on the north side of the street are slated to come down. There are a lot of steps to go through but tentative start time for the demolition will be in the spring. We cannot announce until the press release from the Department of Economic Development is prepared and released.
- Any other old business

New Business –

- Dora brought up the idea of possibly starting a scrap book of what we have done. Members were agreeable – no volunteers at this point.

- The Café – we have a new café in town. It was opened by Dale and Shirley Morris. Business is going well and they will be joining the Chamber soon. It is reported that the food is very good and they have later hours than the previous cafes. We have asked her about having meetings in the back room and Shirley says they are working on fixing that up for special functions and that they would allow us to use it.
- Downtown and business expansions and conditions of buildings on Bridge Street after the demolition is completed should be a top priority of the city and especially the chamber. Start talking and spreading the word that soon & stay positive!
- Volunteer of the quarter – it was decided that Ardyth Delaney would be our volunteer of the quarter and that Sue Ann Hughes would be the alternate. Some names for future recognition are Rhonda Friesz (around pool time), Chris Hughes or Chris Calvert.
- Discussion was held on membership ideas and possible Christmas projects. It was decided that we would have a mass membership mailing. Dora and Amanda will work on this. We will be having a drawing of all memberships that are paid by a certain date and the winning member (1) will receive a free additional year membership. Also, we will be rounding up any remaining unsold chamber ornaments to sell. Dora will inventory what is in the attic at the bank and give the information to Janet and Amanda. (Possible information to include in the letter for the membership drive is a list of what we have accomplished this year.)
- Some ideas tossed around were an event at the Presbyterian Church or doing something when the Lions Club has the annual Christmas Event. It was decided not to do anything with the Lions at this time due to there being no one to distinguish Lions from Chamber and we are trying to get people more aware of what we do and who we are. Christmas Money was discussed but with the current lack of brick and mortar stores, it would be difficult to implement.

The next meeting date will be November 16, 2015. Susan mentioned she will be unable to attend as she will be at a conference that date.

Lowell Newsom moved seconded by Robbie Wheeler to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 pm. All in favor

Minutes taken by Secretary Dora Palmer _____