

Grandview Chamber of Commerce
Board Meeting Minutes

December 5, 2005

I Preliminary

President Gaylene Tucker called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

Present for all or portions of the meeting:

Becky Ruppert—Consumer's Choice Insurance
Steve Martin—Wal-Mart Distribution Center
Gaylene Tucker—Consumer's Choice Insurance
Kathy Charvet—People for People
Mike Bradshaw—BentonREA's Powernet
Marnie Gibbs—All Ways Busy Arena
Norm Childress—City of Grandview

Chamber Staff:
Lynda Jo Gross

Guest:
Allison Monterola—Wal-Mart Distribution Center

II Regular Business Items

Steve Martin made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mike Bradshaw seconded. Motion carried.

The financial report for the month of November was presented by Lynda Jo Gross. The report showed a beginning balance in the community checking account of \$5,286.22 as of Nov. 1. The ending balance was \$2,789.51 as of Nov. 30, 2005. The beginning balance of the savings account on Nov. 1, 2005 was \$300.26; the ending balance on Nov. 30, 2005 was \$300.28. The beginning of the month balance for tourism was \$429.71, as was the ending balance on Nov. 30. Lynda Jo informed the Board of a mistake she'd made at the November Board Meeting; the tourism account reflected an ending balance on Oct. 31 \$522.29. This number was incorrect, because a check for fuel for the float was issued to Mrs. Zeigler in the amount of \$92.58 for reimbursement when the gas card wouldn't work due to the soft limit. The correct balance was \$429.71, which was presented at the Nov. Board meeting.

Mike Bradshaw made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Kathy Charvet seconded. Motion carried.

Annual Auction:

Steve Martin, chairperson for the annual auction, announced his resignation to the Chamber Board. He is relocating to Georgia. He nominated Allison Monterola to the Board of Directors to replace his position, as well as chair the annual auction.

Mike Bradshaw made a motion to accept Steve's resignation and appoint Allison Monterola to the Board of Directors. Marnie Gibbs seconded. Motion carried.

Lynda Jo presented costs for rental of the Armory for the auction and rental of the Oddfellow's Hall. The Armory costs \$15 per hour to rent. The Oddfellows Hall costs \$350 to rent, with a \$500 deposit if alcohol is served. Consensus of the Board is that the Armory has better parking, more space (which allows for more options with regard to tables and seating) and a user-friendly kitchen. It's also less expensive. Norm said that perhaps this would allow us to sell tickets for either the meal and the auction or just the auction itself. Steve suggested a dance following the auction, as the DeeJay costs just as much whether you dance or not. Norm instructed Lynda Jo to find out when the State Basketball Tournaments would be held.

Mike Bradshaw made a motion to lock in the appropriate date to rent the armory. Kathy Charvet seconded. Motion carried.

Contact info:

Gaylene requested that people supply her with contact information for email addresses and cell phone numbers. The list was passed around and those present filled it out. For Board members absent, Lynda Jo will obtain the information.

Budget:

Gaylene presented a budget that she and Becky have been working on. The budget for 2006 reflects an income of \$43,709.62 and expenses of \$40,840.00. These figures include a raise for Lynda Jo in the spring to \$10 an hour, Gaylene said. Lynda Jo asked Mike what the \$500 expense to Junior Miss reflected. Mike said he believed it was a donation from Benton REA to Junior Miss that was deposited to the Chamber account. Norm said that in future years, he'd like to see the budget reflect larger scholarships to students, perhaps even business major students.

Mike Bradshaw made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Steve Martin seconded. Motion carried.

2006 Theme Ideas:

Theme Ideas so far: Join in the Mix in 2006. Continued Excellence in 2006. Ballots will be presented for vote at the Dec. 13 member meeting. Deadline is Dec. 9 to submit Chamber theme ideas.

Annual Events:

Per Gaylene, we are lacking in events during the first six months of the year. More fundraising events are needed. Marnie suggested lawnmower races downtown and inviting communities from the valley to participate. She suggested that a scholarship be given to the winning students from the town that wins, with the lawnmower being featured in the parades the winning town participates in. Lynda Jo recommended a special events committee to help with ideas such as this one.

Kathy Charvet made a motion for Lynda Jo to coordinate a special events committee. Steve Martin seconded. Motion carried.

Prosser Downtown Revitalization Meeting:

Marnie faxed an article regarding a recent Prosser Downtown Revitalization Meeting that was included in the Board meeting packets. This was intended for Board member review. During this discussion, Norm recommended we should reactivate the previous Grandview Revitalization Committee. Lynda Jo will research who served and will provide a timeline with all that happened regarding the most recent revitalization efforts.

Treasurer's Report:

It's the consensus of the Board that the Treasurer's Report does not differ from the financial report and that from now on Becky Ruppert, Treasurer, will present the Chamber financial report.

Agenda for Member Meeting

On the agenda so far is the voting for the theme, who the guest speaker is (LeMaster and Daniels), and the date and time as to when the after-hours social events should be held. The Chamber Events Committee will be added to the agenda.

Office Report:

Four new members in the month of November: Grandview VFW Post, The Salvation Army, Carousel Kids, and H&R Block. One new member is already signed up for 2006. Lynda Jo will announce that company in January.

Cocoa and Carols was well attended—about 50 people came.

City Decorations—Lynda Jo informed the Board that it's the Chamber's responsibility to replace lighting in the city's Christmas decorations. Public Works employee Rick Rivard offered to restring the mini-lights on them this summer. On the same note, Holly Castle suggested purchasing netting Christmas lights for next year's tree when they go on clearance this year after Christmas.

Senior Citizen Membership Fees

Gaylene researched the senior citizen discounts that are included in the dues structures for other Chambers of Commerce. She recommended a Grandview Chamber Senior Citizen annual membership fee of \$15.00 per individual membership for any individual that is 65 years of age or older. The membership fee is currently set at \$35 for any individual.

Marnie made a motion to accept the recommendation to create a senior citizen Grandview Chamber annual membership dues fee of \$15.00 per year for individual community members who are 65 years of age or older, and that the new senior citizen individual annual membership fee is to be added to the current list of Chamber membership dues. Norm seconded. Motion carried.

Board Appointment

Dennis McDonald expressed his interest in joining the Chamber Board of Directors.

Marnie made a motion to appoint Dennis to the Board. Kathy Charvet seconded. Motion carried.

Gaylene Tucker adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.