

Stuart Chamber of Commerce

February 7, 2018

<http://www.stuartia.com>

President Kristy Lonsdale called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM on February 7, 2018 at Country Kitchen. Eleven members were present.

Kristy Lonsdale reviewed the Treasurer's report prepared by Cheryl Marks for January, 2018. A copy was given to each member present. Diane Belden motioned to approve the January Treasurers Report. Amy Koster seconded. Motion passed.

Kristy Lonsdale reviewed the 2018 Budget prepared by Cheryl Marks. Diane Belden motioned to approve the 2018 budget. Jenyse Belden seconded. Motion passed.

January Minutes were presented at the meeting. Amy Koster motioned to approve the January Minutes. Loretta Sloss seconded. Motion passed.

Guests were introduced: Brenda Dudley, Loretta Sloss, Lindsay Graham, Jenyse Belden, Meradith Janssen, Jenna Clark, Ames Cross, Amy Koster, Kristen Renslow, Diane Belden, Kristy Lonsdale

Committee Updates:

Beautification:

- Loretta Sloss reported that the planters for downtown came Friday. They will wait until Spring to set them and order plants.

Good Egg Days:

- Kristy Lonsdale reported the second Good Egg Day meeting is February 13th at 5:30 at the Library. Kristy stated Sweet Fun Carnival was booked and the option we chose is no payment to the Carnival and they will keep all proceeds. Our only cost will be water, electricity, and shipping cost for 50 posters. We will receive tickets to sell in advance. We will do our own advertising. The rides will be on the street north or south of the park.

Membership/Business Promotion/Special Events:

- In Tiffany Johnson's absence, Kristy Lonsdale reported that a membership letter has been sent out. They will be working with Brenda on getting some new members and touching base with those who have not returned memberships for 2018. Brenda Dudley reported she visited Linden Sweets and she is not interested in a ribbon cutting and is considering becoming a chamber member. Loretta Sloss suggested we send them a plant. Diane Belden motioned to approve the plant. Jenyse Belden seconded. Motion passed.

Marketing/Promotions:

- Dudley reported that SEED received a grant for Marketing materials. Brenda and Kristen Renslow have been working on this project. They are looking at a brochure or updating our current website. It was also suggested that we purchase an electronic sign (as seen at Hometown in Guthrie) to post events and advertisements.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Jenyse Belden asked what we thought about Microsoft vs. Google. The school board is trying to decide between the two. There was much discussion.
- Sloss reported that Midwest Senior Services has moved to Redfield. The Youth Center is also changing.

Directors Report:

- Dudley asked if we were interested in continuing the \$25 plant to businesses after a Ribbon Cutting or was there another option. It was discussed and decided to continue the plant. This also gives business to Stuart Flowers and Gifts.

- It was discussed that we were looking for a Speaker for the April meeting. It was decided there would not be enough time for a speaker and maybe it would be better as a separate Lunch and Learn. Dudley suggested she would talk to local businesses and see if anyone would be willing to speak, such as an attorney regarding legal issues, Technology, etc. It was suggested to send an email out and see what businesses would be interested in learning about.
- Dudley also discussed that we are starting Community Coffee at 7:00 a.m or 10:00 a.m. on the 3rd Friday of each month. Ames Cross said he went to the Community Coffees in Adel, they were very good, and were at 7:00. We decided on 7:00 for Stuart. Brenda stated she had talked to Linden Street Sweets and she is willing to have the February 16th Coffee. A signup sheet was passed around.
- Guthrie County Community Foundation grant is due 3/5/18. We discussed a mobile App, the mural on the wall by the downtown park, and the electronic advertisement sign.
- Dudley stated we are wanting to start First Friday for drinks. Every first Friday of the month. Cheryl was going to talk to Audrey at Johnnies for 3/2/18 meeting.
- Sandy's Sweetheart Dance is on Saturday at Saints center from 6-10 p.m.
- Good Egg meeting on Tuesday, Feb 13 at 5:30
- Seed meeting changed to February 8th at 7am
- Ruby's is having a Comedian on Wednesday, February 21 at 8pm
- Karl Chevrolet is celebrating their 40th Anniversary this year. Lindsay Graham stated they were starting to make plans for a celebration.

Business Updates:

- Loretta Sloss reported they are keeping their Guthrie Store open.
- Lindsay Graham reported they have a new General Manager, Clint.
- Meradith Janssen reported the Care Center is renovating and updating.
- Lonsdale stated the Annual Chili Kickoff is February 24th at 6:00 p.m.

Community Reports:

City of Stuart: None

SEED Update: None.

Stuart Lions: None.

Next meeting will be on March 7, 2018 at Noon at Country Kitchen.

Meradith Janssen motioned to adjourn. Sloss seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:55PM.

Email the stuartchamber@aol.com if you have any announcements that you would like to have sent out to the Chamber group.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda Dudley
Stuart Chamber of Commerce