

March 6, 2019 Stuart Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 12:09 p.m. by Chamber President, Kristy Lonsdale, with 14 present.

- February 2019 minutes were reviewed and a correction noted to replace the second sentence in the report from SEED, as follows: *SEED is working on a possible Phase III in the Wambold Addition area; the preliminary design has 39 lots.* Loretta Sloss moved to approve the February minutes as corrected; Kristen Renslow seconded the motion; motion carried.
- The Treasurer's report was presented by Cheryl Marks, showing \$10,526.49 available outside budgeted amounts. Kristen Renslow moved to approve the Treasurer's Report; Ryan Morrison seconded the motion; motion carried.

Guests: Johnny Gundersen, General Sales Manager of Karl Chevrolet, was introduced. Karl Chevrolet is a Chamber member and Johnny will be attending future meetings as well.

Committee Update:

Beautification - Russ Wagner: "The snow is beautiful."

Good Egg Days – Kristy Lonsdale reported on potential carnival offering. No contract has been signed yet. Kristy can provide a copy. Details of liability insurance are provided only after the contract is signed. Event insurance was briefly discussed and quotes will be sought for discussion at the next meeting. The budget for Good Egg Days is \$3500.

Marketing/Media Promotions – Cheryl Marks and Kristen Renslow reported that the brochure is in final draft stage and will be printed soon.

Membership – Annual dues letter was mailed and/or delivered by Executive Director Brenda Dudley.

Director's Update:

- Community Coffee at 7:00 a.m. on the third Friday of each month, with announcements and updates at 7:30. Stuart Appliance hosted on February 15 with nice attendance. Next host is Adair County Medical Clinic on March 15.
- "After Hours" is held each quarter. Next is on May 2 at Wagner Investments, 5-6 p.m.
- Annual Chamber dinner is March 7 at Saints Center at 5:30 p.m. Rod Stanley will speak on Bonnie & Clyde. Hometown Foods is catering; drinks included but can bring wine/beer.
- Bonnie & Clyde Run/Walk is April 13. Lots of interest and sponsors; will need volunteers. Banner for photo-op will be used at dinner tomorrow.
- Grand Openings wanted: Urban Inkers, D&G Auto, Richter & Son, Nutty Girl.
- Karen Varley is hoping to start a Toastmasters club locally.
- The SBDC will provide a class at AmericInn on March 27 from 12 to 1:30 on how to claim your business on Google.
- Adair County Free Press is selling ads for advertising booklet in April - May, \$135/page.
- Rudy Daniels is presenting a program, "Trains Across Iowa," on April 11 at 7 p.m. at the Depot.

New Business:

- A Prairie Meadows grant request was submitted for a mural at the Pocket Park. Thanks to Loretta Sloss, Kristen Renslow, and Kristy Lonsdale for their work on this. The City may be asked for funds to help with the scaffolding.
- Easter Egg Hunt in Lawbaugh Park on Saturday, April 20.

Other Business / Old Business – covered in Director's Update.

Business Updates:

- Karl Chevrolet will soon be operational in 4 buildings: New, Pre-Owned, Body/Parts/Service, and Car Wash. Watch for details and share Karl's Facebook posts.
- Adair County Memorial Health has a \$1000 scholarship to be awarded to a health-care student.

Reports:

- SEED
- Lions Club
- Midwest Partnership
- White Pole Road – stakeholders meeting held February 21 for discussion of promotion opportunities, possibility of RAGBRAI visit in 2019.
- Stuart Revitalization Group – are holding monthly meetings; ideas being pursued include BBQ cook-off, wine night, movie, sock hop. Bonnie & Clyde Run/Walk committee meets weekly.
- Adair County Tourism – materials available for distribution were described and circulated.

“Jeff” (Loretta) moved to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Varley