

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by President Kristy Lonsdale, with 17 present.

June 2019 minutes were reviewed. Tiffany Johnson moved to approve the June minutes as presented; Russ Wagner seconded the motion; motion carried. Loretta Sloss later pointed out an error in that the Pocket Park recently received an appropriation for picnic tables, not benches.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Cheryl Marks, showing \$26,703.74 available outside budgeted amounts; however, Bonnie and Clyde Run/Walk, Good Egg Days, and RAGBRAI® event information is not yet complete. Tiffany Johnson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report; Warren Varley seconded the motion; motion carried.

Guest: All attendees introduced themselves, including Ashraf Ashour, Stuart City Administrator; and Freddy Vasquez, Regional Planner with the Region XII Council of Governments, who provided an opportunity for citizen input in conjunction with the revision of Stuart's Comprehensive Plan.

Committee Update:

- Beautification - Please remember to water and fertilize the plants in planters. Seasonal decorations will be stored at the Stuart Herald building.
- Good Egg Days – follow-up discussion included the following items:
  - Commitments should be reviewed appropriately, well in advance of the event, before any contracts are signed.
  - A realistic budget needs to be determined ahead of time.
  - The GED budget was adjusted this year. Should there be a different budgeted amount for next year?
  - The 2020 Good Egg Days will also be Stuart's sesquicentennial celebration.
  - More fundraising and more sponsors will be needed.
  - More volunteers will be needed.
  - Sesquicentennial can incorporate brand-building. Slogan is well-known; however, slogan is only part of the brand.
  - Event is opportunity to bring favorable attention to the community.

Director's Update:

- Several grand openings / ribbon cuttings are coming up.
- There will be a Lunch-and-Learn on using the Square® credit card point-of-sale system.
- Adair County Fair Stuart Buying Group wants Brenda Dudley to be able to sign its checks. The consensus was that Brenda has authority to do so; however no formal action was taken.
- Dean Porter is pursuing the idea of a community center in Stuart and is looking for support from businesses. Observations made by the group: how will this impact congregate meals? Are services being duplicated? Could the Care Center be a partner? Could existing organization/s sponsor this effort rather than creating a new organization? Prior community commitments were noted, e.g. improved housing and a commercial daycare.
- A tour of available downtown buildings will be held September 19 from 11:30 to 5, with a reception following at the Depot. Greeters are needed in 2-hour shifts.
- Chamber need for storage space was discussed.
- Possibility of physical presence for Chamber, perhaps during peak visitor season only, was discussed.

New Business:

- RAGBRAI will be in Stuart on July 22. More volunteers are needed.

Other Business / Old Business:

- Community Coffee will be July 19 at 7:00 a.m. at United Risk Services.
- Thursday night after-hours will be August 1 at 5 p.m. at Stuart Appliance.

Business Updates: *skipped in interests of time*

Reports:

- SEED and IEDA officials will have a downtown walk-around on August 13 and meet with local leaders, with an afternoon report to the public.
- Midwest Partnership is making visits to major employers in the region through August. A report will be provided in the fall. The golf outing involved 28 teams.
- Stuart Revitalization Group Wine Walk was a success. Planning now for the Best of the Block BBQ contest on September 20-21. Sponsorships due August 1. Please share Facebook page.
- Stuart Young Professionals group is working on a sand volleyball court at the old athletic fields. Also, will hold a fishing tournament at Beaver Lake on August 24.

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m. on a motion by Jeff Schwartzkopf.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Varley, Secretary