

Vicksburg Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes

August 13, 2007

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm by Vice President Gary Gray.

Roll Call: Gary Gray, Joanne Craddock, Joel Nelson, John Farrand, Harry Conant, Lee Mortimer, Charles Zanayed. Kent McCauley and Dan Bialas not present.

Minutes: There were no minutes from July's meeting, due to lack of quorum.

Appearances and Presentations:

No scheduled appearances or citizen presentations.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Lee Mortimer reported that our current working balance is \$4,893.81 with an additional \$1,033.90 in the Ice Festival Account and \$3,024.80 in a CD for a total of \$8,952.51. This total includes the income from the FolkLife Festival of \$636.66.

Marketing Report: Joanne Craddock reported continued phone calls and e-mails to the Chamber. The Chamber is now being recognized as a source of information for the area.

Membership Report: John Farrand reported we have no new member applications this month.

Events Report: Brief discussion on the FolkLife Festival. Thanks to all our volunteers. John reported the remaining Concerts in the Park have been filled.

Economic Growth- John Farrand noted that a new business has opened called the Loose Goose. It is located over between J & S Party Store and the Car Wash. Welcome!

Nominating Committee- Joanne Craddock reported that three board positions are up this September. The new nominees are Lee Mortimer, Gary Gray and Dave Downs. The official letter will go out Wednesday if anyone else is interested and would like to petition to run for a Board position.

Old Business:

Bylaw Revisions- Joanne Craddock reported that we have not heard back from the Village attorney yet.

Chamber Plaques- Joanne reported some quotes on printing and frames for plaques for all Chamber members. We discussed some other options. Joanne will ask Jill at the Commercial Express for a quote to design a certificate layout. Dave Downs offered to print them on the Church printer and we can pay the Church for the copies. Will report more next month. Motion by John Farrand, seconded by Lee Mortimer to approve the purchase of 100 plastic frames for the plaques at the cost of \$3.20 each plus \$15.00 shipping from Exclusive Marketing Concepts. Motion passed. Joanne will take care of the order.

Website Changes- Jim Smitchger from jAess Consulting gave an overview of the redesign proposal he provided to the Chamber. Motion by Joanne Craddock, seconded by John Farrand to approve the website redesign at an estimated cost of \$500.00 and to move the website hosting from Yahoo to jAess Consulting for a monthly fee of \$20.00. John and Joanne will follow up with Jim. Motion passed. Actual revisions will not begin until October.

Visitor's Guide/Community Directory- Joanne reported advertising sales are going well. Joanne is requesting assistance on getting any revisions made to articles and/or new articles. Joel Nelson will review and also update our

calendar with the regular community events. Lee with contact VCA and Rotary about putting some more information in and John will contact a few other organizations.

Annual meeting- John Farrand and Joanne Craddock discussed the upcoming annual meeting. It will be held at Main Street Pub on September 26, 6:00-7:30 pm. Refreshments will be served and a citizen award and a business award will be presented. Invitations and award nomination forms will be mailed this week.

New Business:

Motion by John Farrand, seconded by Harry Conant to approve the ½ page ad for the Main Street Revue program at the cost of \$48.00. Motion passed.

Announcements:

Next meeting is September 10, 2007, 6:00 pm, location to be announced.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

By Secretary Joanne Craddock