

Vicksburg Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes
March 10, 2008

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm by President Gary Gray.

Roll Call: Gary Gray, Joanne Craddock, Lee Mortimer, Dave Downs, Dustin Morton, Joel Nelson
Not present: John Farrand and Kim Baker

Minutes: Motion by Dave Downs seconded by Lee Mortimer to approve minutes of February 11, 2008 meeting.
Motion carried.

Appearances and Presentations:

Wendy Burris as listed on the Agenda was not present.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Lee Mortimer presented the Treasurer's Report and discussed CD coming due. Motion by Joanne Craddock seconded by Dave Downs to move CD to savings account at renewal. Motion carried.

Marketing Report: Joanne reported that the website additional databasing is continuing, but Jim Smitchger has been unavailable to work on it for a few weeks. She also reported that the River County Tourism Guide contacted the Chamber and would like to list some of our events in their new guide. Joanne will reply to them with Vicksburg's events.

Membership Report: Motion by Dave Downs seconded by Lee Mortimer to approve Bobby's Drive In as a new member. Motion carried.

Events Report: June Kucks did get the grant application in for the Concerts in the Park. June also left information for the board members. Lee had come up with the idea of having businesses sponsor different Friday nights. The business would need to be there to greet the band, announce them to the public and make sure everything was cleaned up. The sponsor group could pass out popcorn or something similar and have their business information on display. Details to be worked out.

Economic Growth- No report.

Old Business:

Chamber Plaques/Visitor's Guides: Dave is working on printing the remaining plaques. Joanne requested that Dave bring them to the next meeting and the Board Members could all take some along with the Visitor's Guides to deliver to all the member businesses.

New Business:

Lee presented a request for advertising in the Performing Arts Center programs. Motion by Joanne Craddock seconded by Dave Downs to approve a ¼ page ad at the cost of \$100.00 Joanne will make changes to last years ad and get them sent in.

Motion by Joanne Craddock seconded by Dave Downs to approve Bob Donelson as a new board member to replace Charles Zanayed who resigned. Motion carried.

Joel Nelson expressed he no longer wanted to be Secretary. Motion by Dave Downs seconded by Dustin Morton to approve Joanne Craddock as Secretary for the remainder of this term. Motion carried.

Motion by Joanne Craddock seconded by Dustin Morton to approve Joel Nelson as Membership Committee Chairperson to replace John Farrand. Motion carried. Dave Downs and Bob Donelson offered to help on this committee. Joel will contact John for all the materials and details. Joel will also work on getting the ribbon cutting ceremonies set up that were requested previously.

There was discussion on the Michigan Tourism Conference. Chris Klok had expressed an interest in going. Motion by Dave Downs seconded by Dustin Morton to approve up to \$500.00 for Chris Klok to attend the conference in Grand Rapids. The \$500 is to cover the cost of the conference at \$199.00 and lodging for 3 nights. In return we ask Chris to do a presentation to the Board and possibly the General Membership on what she learned. Joanne will contact Chris.

Joanne Craddock brought up an idea for a Vicksburg map featuring downtown places to eat and shop. These maps would be available at the various sporting events, and other events such as the Old Car Festival and Concerts in the Park. So many times people come from other schools for tournaments in Vicksburg and have no idea where they can go to eat. This will list the places and a map to get them there. Joanne was waiting for pricing from Total Market Strategies and will e-mail the board with the information when she gets it. This type of item fits the purpose of the Chamber very well. The board will do an e-mail vote to get things rolling if the pricing sounds good.

Board Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

By Secretary Joanne Craddock