

Leon Chamber of Commerce
Thursday, February 3, 2022
Decatur County Hospital Conference Room
Meeting Minutes

Roll Call: Jo Beth Smith, Tonya Lindsey, John Dunsdon, Shannon Erb, Shane Akers, Doug Kouba, Marcia Stephens, Chris Coffelt

Call to Order: President Smith called the meeting to order at 7:34 am.

Welcome and Celebrations: The heat is working (inside), SCIT Theatre had a good crowds for a special showing of American Underdog, and SCIT Theatre rolled out a new annual membership program. The group also discussed the City Council's endeavor to name a street across from the fairgrounds, by which the Country View housing development is accessed from the west.

Approve Consent Agenda: Motion by John Dunsdon, second by Tonya Lindsey to approve the consent agenda including the February 3, 2022 agenda, January 6, 2022 minutes, and January Financials. M/C

Financial Report: Treasurer Akers presented a financial report that showed a gross revenue of \$3,459.62, and net revenue of \$1,464.59 for the month of January 2022.

Chamber Business

- Chamber Coffee Update: LT's Auto event was delayed, and set to be rescheduled. The upcoming Chamber Coffees will include Underdog Sports.
- Banner report: Kouba presented a new design to the group, and consensus was reached to move forward with the design including a few tweaks. The group also discussed a plan to replace existing banners with the new design. Kouba will work with James Cornell to facilitate the replacement.
- 2022 Membership Update: To date, there are 47 paid members of ~100 membership letters sent. Kouba will bring a list of members to next week's LCDC meeting, and the group will approach those with outstanding memberships to get caught up. The group also discussed the need to develop a process to reach out to new members on a timely basis to provide information on the Chamber, including information about the 1-year free membership program.
- New Website Development Update: Erb presented a proposal from Gradient9 to develop a new Chamber website. The cost is \$3,920 to include a new website, logo redesign, and hosting for the first year. Ongoing hosting is estimated to cost \$420 per year. Chris Coffelt motioned, and Doug Kouba seconded, to approve the website contract to Gradient9 for \$3,920. - M/C
- Chamber Banquet/COY Recognition Update: Smith and Lindsey discussed the Chamber Banquet. They recommended we move forward with a new recognition plan. Instead of hosting a banquet, the COY and Rising Star will be recognized in the 4th of July Parade, and at the Leon Rodeo.

Live

- FLRSP: Multiple grants have been submitted, and the group continues to seek grant funding and other fundraisers to complete Phase 1 of extending the trail to the Leon Depot.

Play

- Easter Egg Hunt: Stephens requested assistance to purchase candy for this event. She has eggs, and will partner with SIRC to put together this event. The group gained consensus to keep the funds allocated toward this event in the budget.

- Junkin' on Jefferson: This event is scheduled for the first weekend in June.
- Spring/Summer Flower Planters: The group discussed, at length, the existing flower planters that are typically hung along main street and highway 2 in the downtown square district. Due to a low number of volunteers to help maintain these flower pots throughout the entire spring and summer, the group decided to adapt this program. Tonya Lindsey motioned, and John Dunsdon seconded, to purchase 4 new larger planters to hang at the intersection of Highway 2 and Main Street. - M/C. In addition to these planters, the County Supervisors will be asked to hang planters on the lampposts mounted in the courthouse lawn, and to maintain them. Additionally, Tonya Lindsey will discuss the possibility of seasonal mowers to maintain the other baskets around the square. Depending on the response from these two inquiries, the group will decide how to proceed.

Work

- Leon Development: next meeting will be February 10th, 2022 at 7:30 am at Leon Journal-Reporter.
- Leon Development Properties: Erb presented the opportunity to bid on vacant and abandoned properties that have been published by the City. These properties, including a potential plan to bid on them, will be discussed at the LCDC meeting.

Chamber/Partner Updates

- City of Leon: No updates were provided.
- DCDC: An update on the rural leadership program was provided by Erb. This program will help develop new leaders throughout Decatur County, including those that might be willing to serve with the Chamber in the future.

Next Meeting Date

- Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 7:30 am in the Decatur County Hospital Conference Room.

Adjourn: President Smith adjourned the meeting at 9:07 am.

ATTEST:

Shannon Erb, Secretary