**Minutes of the Cowan Commercial Club**

The Cowan Commercial and Community Club met on Monday evening, August 26th, 2019 at Simpler Times with the following members in attendance: Mary Bledsoe, Kristina Britt, Kallie Britt, Rendi Britt, Helen Brown, Paige Jones, Mark Ledbetter, Ben Money, Jarod Pearson, and Amanda Wiseman.

Mary called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. The minutes from the meeting of July 22nd were presented and accepted with no changes. Then the minutes from the meeting of June 24th were presented and accepted with no changes.

The Treasurer reported a balance of $3,164 in the main account and $737 in the special account. Our operating balance is growing due in large part to the success of our Street Fair.

Rendi reported that the recent Street Fair brought in a net profit of $1031. Rendi received a round of applause from the members because this was a successful fundraiser for our group.

Mary reported that we had three successful ribbon cuttings since our last meeting – AHF consulting, Nick’s, and 3-Generations. The publicity is proving that Cowan’s business community is growing again.

We are nearing the time for officer elections. Mary has received several nominating forms. Kallie will soon send a membership letter out for new members and for renewals. Jarod will send e-mails out as well. The members were reminded to make personal contacts as well.

Mary asked if the business owners would consider a member-to-member discount program. After some discussion, the group agreed that each business wanting to participate can send discount information to Kallie so it can go out with the membership renewals.

Under new business, Jarod gave a report on a proposal to repair the town street clock. Unfortunately, the cost was much higher than anticipated. After some discussion, the members decided to look at one possible alternative for repairs and to also consult with the mayor and the railroad museum for input. We will try to make a final decision at next month’s meeting.

Under old business, Jarod asked for the status on the signs on the end of town as he was absent from last month’s meeting. A decision was made to not place anything on the ends of town with reference to the business community, which was not in line with a decision made the month before. The members discussed where we stood on the proposal, and then received a motion by Paige to order a VisitCowan tag to go on the ends of town. Paige also offered to pay for the signs as a donation from her business. The motion was seconded and passed.

Amanda asked the members how we, as an organization, can support the Fall Heritage Festival. It was noted that individuals and businesses are part of the festival, but the club itself is not involved as a group. Mindful of that, Jarod moved that Cowan Commercial Club sponsor the Fall Heritage Festival at the Cultivator level with a gift of $150. The motion was seconded and approved.

Kim mentioned that the Fall Heritage Festival workers are planning to be in the park on Saturday, March 31st, to clean-up and install fall decorations. The members decided to make this a work day and ask others to help out.

Mary reminded the group that the September meeting is especially important as we will elect new officers. However, Mary has a scheduling conflict for the 4th Monday of the month and Jarod has a conflict on the 5th Monday. The members decided to meet instead on Tuesday, September 24th, 6:00 p.m. at Simpler Times.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jarod Pearson, Secretary