

Minutes of the Cowan Commercial Club

Cowan Commercial Club met on Monday, February 25th, 2008 at Cowan City Hall with a record attendance.

The President called the meeting to order and Mayor Jo Ed Williams opened with a word of prayer.

The Secretary was absent from this meeting due to surgery, so the minutes were not available; however, the President shared his notes.

The purpose of this meeting was to call attention to the fact that Cowan needs a plan to progress to the next phase in our community growth and redevelopment. We have benefited enormously from new businesses, a revitalized downtown, growth in tax revenue, and a cultural revival that recalls our history and charm. However, there is widespread consensus that we must not rest on our laurels.

Roger Guess, Mark Ledbetter, and Jennifer Redstreak made a special presentation looking at Cowan's history and how the town is positioning itself for future growth. This led to a conversation about ways we can more effectively market, cater to the needs of consumers, and increase the overall appeal of the community.

The greatest challenge was finding a starting point for our next move forward. Dr. Jere Creed suggested that the Executive Committee of Cowan Commercial Club summarize the discussions and craft a proposal on things we can do to enhance downtown and strengthen our marketing efforts. The Committee members agreed to do so and present a preliminary report at the next meeting.

Noting the strong attendance at this meeting, a question was raised as to whether we should permanently change the meeting time and meeting place of Cowan Commercial Club. After some discussion, a motion was made by Dan Forster to move the meetings of Cowan Commercial Club from the 4th Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. to the 4th Monday at 2:00 p.m. with a suggestion that we meet at Cowan City Hall, and that we amend our by-laws accordingly. The move was seconded and approved unanimously.

It was noted that we will need to clear with Cowan City Council about use of City Hall, which the President agreed to check on.

Among other items of business, a work day for the railroad park was set for Saturday, March 29th, and members were reminded to pay annual dues of \$40 as soon as possible.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.