

Minutes of the Cowan Commercial Club

The Cowan Commercial Club met on Monday, April 25, 2016 with the following members in attendance: Mary Bledsoe, Cheryl Boswell, Jennifer Klein, Mark Ledbetter, Kasey Maxwell, Jeff Pennington, Russell Sells, Savannah Tiner, and Bill Welch.

Russell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Bill opened with a word of prayer. The minutes from the previous meeting were presented with a motion by Cheryl to accept. The minutes were accepted by voice vote and filed accordingly.

Cheryl gave an update on the treasury. Our operating account stands at \$1597.22. The special account has a balance of \$1995.91 reflecting a recent paint purchase for the railroad park.

The following reports were provided:

- Fundraising - no updates, and we still need a chair
- Christmas Parade - a first meeting is scheduled, but no updates as of yet
- Special Projects - some work completed on the shrubbery and flower beds, old gazebo removed, bricks being removed and stacked for relocation.
- Recruiting - we are planning a ribbon cutting at Lapp's Greenhouse tomorrow. We will soon schedule a ribbon cutting at Studio K and at the new Cowan Laundry.

Mark reported that the first Cruise-in was a success and that the next one will be on May 20th.

A planning meeting for the Fall Heritage Festival is scheduled for this coming Thursday at 6 p.m.

Jarod read a letter from the Franklin County Arts Guild asking us to endorse one of their new grant applications. Jarod made a subsequent motion, which was seconded and passed. Russell signed the letter and presented it to Mark.

Russell brought some ideas forward to enhance the railroad park. Cheryl mentioned a picnic table as an idea we worked on in the past but did not implement because of funding limitations. Kasey offered to have her husband look at the idea and see if he could construct one to help save costs. Russell agreed to follow-up with him.

Russell also mentioned having some community decorating contests to boost civic pride and participation. After some detailed discussion, Jeff made a motion to plan for Patriotic (4th), Halloween, and Christmas with the latter being tied in to our Small Business Open House. The motion was seconded and approved.

After further discussion, Jarod made a motion to revise the passed motion and replace the July decorating contest with a "Decorate the Town" theme timed with the Fall Heritage Festival. The motion was seconded and passed.

The members agreed that Gift Baskets from the various businesses would be excellent prizes and great incentives for adding participants.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jarod Pearson, Secretary