

## Minutes of the Cowan Commercial Club

Cowan Commercial Club met on Monday, *April* 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at Cowan City Hall.

The President called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. and Mr. Roger Guess opened with prayer.

The minutes from the previous meeting were not available; so, the President shared his notes.

The Treasurer's report was presented showing a balance of \$1,314.70. The report was approved by voice vote.

A special presentation was provided by Robert Reynolds, Cowan Chief of Police, explaining the progress we have made on fighting and preventing crime in Cowan. He also explained how the proper seizure of vehicles from repeat drug offenders has helped increase revenue for the local drug fund, which in turn has helped offset the costs of vehicles and equipment.

The Chief's presentation was followed by a special presentation by Officer Chris Guess from the Franklin County Sheriff's Department. Officer Guess oversees the county-wide neighborhood watch program.


The President reported that our letter to the Post Office asking for an outgoing mail box on the west side of town had not received any response from the Postmaster General's office. A motion was made by Pat that Commercial Club officially approach the city and ask for their written support of the idea. The motion was seconded and approved.

Members discussed the ongoing topic of our downtown revitalization effort. Although we have a vast number of projects we want to tackle, the consensus is that we start within our capability and build momentum as we go. With that, the President proposed that we budget \$200 to get information kiosks built downtown to help encourage more downtown patronage. A motion was made by Susan to that effect, which was seconded and approved.

Members also discussed our need to move forward as quickly as possible with lighting improvements and we would need the full cooperation of business owners in order to move the project forward. This discussion led to a suggestion that we target specific areas where pedestrian-friendly improvements can be made at minimal expense. The President suggested that Commercial Club ask the City of Cowan to designate South Cherry Street as a one-way, southbound-only street. This would eliminate a potential hazard for pedestrians and complement any other improvements we make downtown. The suggested was made into a motion by Roger Guess. It was seconded and approved.

Different members gave general updates on things happening in the community, namely an upcoming forum for political candidates, an upcoming downtown concert, and a preservation effort for one of Cowan's oldest churches.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned, followed by mention of the President that Commercial Club would not be meeting in May.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Anderson".

6-23-08