

Cowan Commercial Club

Minutes 10/27/08

Meeting called to order by President Jarod Pearson at 2:00 pm on October 27, 2008.

Becky Sherman spoke about the upcoming **Christmas Parade**. They already have over \$1,000 in donations; and the Tin Lizzies will be back this year.

She asked that Commercial Club consider coordinating "The Night Before..." since it was such a success last year, with Santa and a photographer. 10 or 12 vendors had been charged \$50 for booth space on Friday and Saturday, but \$25 was refunded because Saturday did not generate any income.

Jarod announced that the traditional Fun Friday would not be held in November since it was the day after Thanksgiving. Instead, we will do **Fun Friday on December 6**, "The Night Before..." Roger Guess volunteered to play Santa, and Jennifer to be one of his helpers. Pat Underwood asked for volunteers to help decorate on Friday, and to assist in serving hot chocolate, cookies, etc. It was suggested that we contact the person who gave Train Rides last year (and at Polly Crockett) to join the festivities. Becky said that she still has about 500 bags and other leftovers from last year. Jennifer will coordinate getting all the merchants involved.

At the Christmas Parade, Jarod has arranged for the Sundrop concession as a fundraiser for CCC. Tom Wagner offered to help run the concession.

Jarod also suggested that this might be a good opportunity to revise the "Welcome Packet" that is distributed to newcomers. Update information, add coupons, trinkets, etc., and perhaps a refrigerator magnet listing all the Cowan businesses. Mark suggested that these bags be passed out to the crowds during the Christmas Parade. Jeff Weron and Tom Wagner volunteered to distribute them.

"Halloween in the Park" will be held October 31 from 5 pm to 8 pm, starting with a parade from Cowan Elementary. Many businesses pass out candy from the doors of their establishments. Again, help is needed in supervising the children, as well as decorating the Park starting a 1:00 that afternoon.

Roger Guess made a motion that CCC donate \$25 to "Halloween in the Park" to purchase candy, or whatever is needed. Jennifer seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Autumn Banquet, traditionally held in November, was scheduled for Monday, December 15 at 6 pm, to be held at The Whistle Stop Café South (pending confirmation). The dinner is a gathering of members, spouses, and new business owners; with a short business meeting to elect new officers and board members for 2009.

Maryann Knowles and Tom Wagner were appointed as **Nominating Committee** for the 7-member board of directors (four officers and three members-at-large). Jarod to give Maryann a list of current members.

New Business

Two newcomers briefly introduced themselves: Jeff Weron from The Whistle Stop Café South, and Tom Wagner.

Tom spoke about his newsletter "Cowan Comments" whose purpose is "to offer up local information to the citizens of Cowan..." The intent is to get people involved and make things happen in Cowan. Comments, articles and requests for advertising can be sent to cowancomments@yahoo.com

Tom was asked to relate how he chose Cowan as a destination when leaving California. He said he search citydata.com and looked at over 600 cities before narrowing it down to 5 cities, including Soddy Daisy TN, Perryville MO, and Cowan. He then located phone numbers on the web, and eventually spoke with Marlyne Davison. She was the most friendly and helpful, and Tom has decided that Cowan is the most incredible place ever!

Jennifer announced the upcoming **Railroad Photo Exhibition** at Redstreak Gallery to start November 7th with a wine and cheese receptions. 20% of all photos sold during the month will go towards the purchase of a window for Cowan Railroad Museum.

Next meeting will be held on November 17th at 2:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Maryann Knowles