



Board of Directors Meeting

March 17, 2009

Quality Growth Video was previewed as Board Members were arriving

Call to order by Steve Thompson, Chairman of the Board @ 12:05PM.

Members present: Dwain Burke, Jeff Cooper, Mayor Lay, Mary Gibson, Wayne Goforth, Donna Jones, Tony Barnes, Marilyn Toppins, Rebecca Mills, Judy Roe, Steve Thompson, William Von Schipmann, and Julie Graham

Members absent: Steve Hill, Kelly Smith, Darlene Wine, Glenn Crawford, Scott Inklebarger, Anthony Shuler

Visitors present: Diane Allen, Gloria Cattafi, Mary Nevin, Jennipher

Approval of Agenda: Motioned by Wayne; 2nd by Von. Motion approved.

Steve recognized new members: Lone Mountain Stables, Goodwill Industries, Clean-Cut Lawn Care and New South Credit Union

Approval of February minutes: Von motioned to accept; Wayne 2nd. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Judy reported a starting balance of \$4599.36 and a March 9, 2009 ending balance of \$4646.49. Judy noted that in this month AR and expenses were about the same. Wayne moved to accept the treasurer's report and Tony 2nd. Motion passed

President's Report: Julie Graham reported on the following Grant **Application:** Julie reported there are several matching grants to consider for projects. Consideration needs to be made for the tourism grant with an application deadline of July 2009. Julie and Von will meet with respect to a camera that was approved as a SOC grant. **Status of Retail Marketing Pieces-** Pricing for the marketing pieces was presented. Von moved that 100 each of the 2 flyers would be printed; Tony 2nd. Motion passed **TVA Prospector:** Julie reported that she had attended an EDTA session detailing the changes in the industrial site data base search system for the state. Julie will need to resubmit documents for each available building or building site to meet the new requirements of the system **Assurant Health:** Tonya Adkins has arranged for individual purchase health coverage for

employees who do not have health insurances as a benefit of their employment. For more information, contact the Chamber.

Board Action:

Banquet Wrap-up- Rebecca suggested that a large venue needs to be considered for next year and that auction items to benefit the Union County Education Foundation should include smaller items so that more people can participate in the auction. Marilyn reminded the Board that the UCBPA was “holding” the funds raised, but a timely filing of the Charter would make book keeping easier for UCBPA. Wayne reported that Steve Hill had the completed charter and will be doing the filing. Tony agreed to assist Rebecca in collecting silent auction items.

Realtor Leads: Steve led a discussion about the handling of realtor leads. He presented the position of the realtors and the procedures of the other local Chambers. After a long discussion, it was agreed to continue current procedure, but to also create a piece representing our chamber realtors to be placed in the tourist packets.

Blogs and Ads: A “dummy blog” was presented to the Board. There is room on the blog page to include 6 ad spaces that could be sold to generate revenue to support the monthly hosting fee for the website. The primary purpose of the blog would be to create a positive environment for announcements as SUCCESS Union County, RAM, KUCB and activities. Mayor Lay moved that we sell ads at a cost of \$99.00 for six months of posting; Marilyn 2nd. Motion passed.

SUCCESS Union County- Planning for the May 1/ May 2 event is underway. A press release, as well as sponsorship flyers will be forthcoming in the next week. This program is specifically designed to create an educational forum for business and personal growth for our youth and adult citizens.

Rural Development Conference: Julie requested funding of \$80 to attend this program which is being held April 2 in Cookeville. Mayor Lay moved to authorize the \$80.00 for tuition and to reimburse mileage; Mary 2nd. Motion passed. Tony thought he might be attending as well, so Julie will try to work out the logistics so as to save on the mileage cost.

2009 Committees: Steve reported that he had attended the March County Commission meeting to present the Chamber’s involvement with various economic activities. He presented that the county’s participation in 3STAR resulted in cost savings to the tax payers in excess of \$1.764 million. He also brought the retail marketing pieces to show that Union County loses over \$322 million annually in sales and the resultant sales tax that could benefit the county. Steve plans to attend the Commission and City Council meetings frequently to keep our governing bodies abreast of the Chamber activities. Marilyn volunteered to host training sessions for elected officials at the Plainview City building to assist with our 3STAR requirements. Steve also reported he had met with Mr. David Myers about potentially re-housing the chamber due to the significant budget costs

of having a free standing building for the Chamber. Mr. Myers no longer had any spaces available, but made suggestions as to other suitable locations. Steve asked that this topic be added to the next agenda.

Steve recommended the following 2009 Committees/ Chairs:

Bylaws/ Nominating- Von

Tourism- Sheila (Justin Collins to represent UCBPA)

Membership- Jeff

Banquet- Rebecca

Long-term Planning- Steve Thompson (Dwain, Tonya, Mayor Lay, Sheila,

Tony)

All agreed to serve and each chair can choose their committees from the membership.

Steve would like quarterly reports from the chairs at the Board meetings. Steve also felt that additional general membership meetings would benefit the community.

Bylaws were tabled, but Steve would like to work with Von on these.

Announcements:

Douglas Cherokee is hosting a parent learning night on Monday, March 23 from 6-8PM at Maynardville Middle School.

Leadership Union County's annual fundraising Spaghetti Dinner is scheduled for March 28 at the commons area in the High School. Tickets are on sale and can be purchased from Steve, all LUC 2009 class members and at the Chamber. Additional auction items are still needed.

WMRD is hosting a gospel show on March 28.

Goodwill is planning on opening a recycling location adjacent to their current building. Information will follow as to the expected opening date. Glass, plastic, cardboard, cans, paper will all be accepted.

Mom's Club is sponsoring an event on Wednesday, April 1 at 10AM at Plainview Community Center. For more information contact 992-9046.

Von reported that the ETDD/ ECD will be receiving stimulus money of over \$64 million for projects that can include COPS program and connectivity and hi speed. Dwain reported that the rural communities in Tennessee were beginning to create a rural caucus to insure there were strong numbers to petition for projects vital in rural communities such as roads and connectivity. There is a bill in the House that TDOT maintain the RPO policies with respect to any funding of projects. A letter to our legislators supporting the bill will be drafted.

KUCB has re- scheduled the March clean-up to Friday, March 27 at 4:15PM at Wilson Park. The youth leadership class will be partnering with KUBC for a lake cleanup at the

HWY 33 bridge area on Saturday, April 25 at 9AM to be followed with a picnic at Beach Island Resort Marina at 1:30PM. This is their large community project and they will be contacting other groups to assist. Ned, Nancy and Bubba, of Beach Island Resort Marina, have agreed to assist with this community project.

Wayne reported that Dr. McCamey and his associates visited Union County to discuss Walters State offering classes in Union County. Several sites were visited in the county and possible classes/ majors were discussed. Wayne will keep the Board informed as to timetables and negotiations.

Steve reported that the Chamber is receiving multiple requests for email notices to be sent to our membership list. After much discussion, it was agreed that the new blog is a great way to list these events, announcements, etc.

UCBPA is hosting their annual scholarship golf tournament fundraiser on April 24 at Woodlake Golf Course. Sponsorships are still needed. For more information, contact the UCBPA.

A BIG congratulation to Kelly Smith and Legends Fitness for the great press regarding their business.

Mayor Lay stated that Walters State will have 75 positions for the summer work study program. Companies interested in registering to accept students need to contact Barbra Lowe at barbralowe@ws.edu

Motion to adjourn made by Marilyn; 2nd Tony. Meeting adjourned @ 1:03PM

Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21 at 12N at the Chamber Offices