



Board of Directors Meeting

June 15, 2010

Wayne introduced Steve Roark from Tennessee Division of Forestry. Steve discussed the upcoming Firewise Workshop scheduled for July 22 from 9A to 4PM at Union County High School. This workshop will present information about the nationwide program titled Firewise, which is designed to create awareness for preventive measures for homeowners living or building in wooded areas. He stressed that there are considerations and fire risks of living in these areas and that information will be provided to include best choices for building materials, roofing, landscaping, and barrier prevention. This program is free and open to the public. Mr. Roark asked the chamber for support of the program. Since the meeting was not yet called to order, Wayne stated that a vote would be taken during today's meeting.

Call to order by Wayne Goforth, Chairman of the Board @ 12:03 PM.

Members present: Atkins E, Atkins T, Cooper, Erickson, Goforth, Buckner, Jones, Roe, Thompson, Williams, Wine, Graham

Members absent: Churchill, Hill, Inklebarger, Mayor Lay, Mills, Rhyne, Phillips

Visitors present: Cindy Taylor, Steve Roark

Approval of Agenda: Motioned by Ron; 2nd by Sheila. Motion approved.

Approval of April minutes: Ron motioned to Ron; Kay 2nd. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Judy reported a starting balance of \$2940.32 and an ending balance of \$1829.75. Expenses totaled \$ 1360.82. Of the ending balance, \$ 1010.58 is for the Education Foundation, leaving a general fund balance of \$819.17. It was recognized that the chamber will not be able to compensate the President/ CEO for June payroll. Ron moved to accept the treasurer's report and Kay 2nd. Motion passed.

President's Report: **Tourism-** The METTC Motorcycle Trail- *Blazing a Trail-* was provided at the meeting. Final copies will be available in the Chamber. Julie reported

that *White Lightning Highway/ Byway* media event is scheduled for Friday, June 25 and the Union County portion will be hosted by UC Historic at the museum from 10-11A. NHTC opted to suspend the application process for the non profit status at this time.

Three Star and annual certification- Shan Harris will be in Union County to conduct the annual recertification on June 17 at 10AM in the Chamber offices. **Broad Band Update-**Based on both the results from the community survey and the InSite consulting report, Union County's lack of broad band throughout the county is a deterrent to the county's overall ability to attract industry and jobs. The board discussed the importance of continuing to identify areas that have no or limited service; the impact of the cost that individuals are quoted by Comcast; and the disadvantage that the lack of service throughout the county has with respect to education. The Board requested that Julie invite the broad band providers to an upcoming meeting to discuss future plans for our county. **Sharps Chapel Road-** The TDOT Commissioner, Gerald Nicely, responded to the letter regarding the adoption of Sharps Chapel Road. Mr. Nicely denied the request, but stated that this road falls under the State Aid System of Highways and is eligible for funding for maintenance and improvements. To receive this funding, Mr. Helms, Road Superintendent applies directly to State Aid program.

Board Action:

Old Business:

Ron reviewed proposed language change to the bylaws affecting Section 3.3 and 3.4 Proxy Members. Since Mr. Hill was not at the meeting, Sheila motioned that the proposal be sent to Mr. Hill and that a vote be made at the next scheduled board meeting and Tim 2nd. Motion passed. .

Wayne read Resolution No. 1370 which designates *Union County as the Cradle of Country Music*. Cindy Taylor then presented some logos that she had created for use by the chamber. Tonya moved that the Chamber be authorized to make t-shirts with a logo, get pricing and a final logo to the board via email for a vote. Ron 2nd. Motion passed

Julie reported that she had submitted a request to the county for annual funding that included a 50:50 proposal for chamber activities and for economic development.

New Business:

Wayne discussed Mr. Roark's presentation. Tim motioned that the Chamber lend its support to the Firewise Workshop scheduled for July 22 and Ron 2nd. Motion passed.

Everett announced that the ICARE program designed to reduce alcohol use and risk behaviors in schools held their kick off meeting in May. Everett provided some of the survey data that was collected in the Union County schools regarding alcohol and drug use among the students. This program is a peer program and has been funded by a grant

received through the generosity of the Johnson County Coalition. The chamber did send a letter of support for the grant application.

Committee Reports:

Tourism Committee: The committee has not met and Wayne requested that Julie arrange a meeting.

Nominating/ Bylaws- The committee will have a slate of candidates for the August meeting. Anyone interested in serving on the board is encouraged to contact Steve Thompson, Ron Erickson, or Steve Hill.

The July meeting date was discussed and Tim motioned to cancel the July meeting. Ron 2nd. Motion passed.

Julie requested permission to proceed with 2 grant applications that would benefit historic preservation and tourism. Ron motioned to allow Julie to apply and Everett 2nd. Motion passed.

Ron updated the board with his research regarding driving program/ obstacle course that emphasis the dangers of driving and texting. Published statistics show that a texting teen is 6X more likely to have an accident than someone who has been drinking. Wayne suggested Ron also involve Eddie Graham in this project. Ron will report back at the next meeting

Kay presented a fundraiser that the Union County Humane Society will be sponsoring. They are creating a cookbook of recipes and pet friendly recipes. For more information, contact Kay or the UC Humane Society.

Julie reported that the Chamber will be closed form July 5 until July 12.

Wayne reviewed the announcements:

Walters State Enrollment Open for Fall Semester 2010
White Lightening Trail Media Stop 6/25 10-11A at Roy Acuff Museum
Beginning Genealogy Workshop 6/25 from 1-3PM at the Halls Senior Center
Oakes Daylily Festival June 25 and June 26
Fireworks Display at Beach Island Resort Marina 7/2
Red Gate Rodeo 7/9 and 7/10
UCBPA Candidate Forum 7/13 at 12N
Firewise Workshop 7/22 9-4PM at Union County High School

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 17 at 12 @ the Chamber offices
Meeting Adjourned at 1:05 PM.

