



Board of Directors Meeting

March 16, 2010

Call to order by Wayne Goforth, Chairman of the Board @ 12:00 PM.

Members present: Atkins E, Atkins T, Churchill, Mayor Lay, Erickson, Goforth, Buckner, Jones, Mills, Robe, Thompson, Von Schipmann, Williams, Wine, Graham

Members absent: Cooper, Hill, Inklebarger, Rhyne, Phillips

Visitors present: Tammy Hamby, Russell DeBusk, Steve Nisley, William Whited, Ed Medford, Donathan Cassidy

Wayne thanked Tammy Hamby, Public Health Educator and member of the Union County Health Council, for providing lunch. Tammy reported that today's presentation was funded by a grant from CHART (Campaign for a Healthy and Responsible Tennessee.) Tammy then introduced Mr. Whited, Chair of Union County Health Council and turned the presentation over to Mr. DeBusk. Mr. Debusk distributed copies of the "Non-Smoker Protection Act" from 2007. He reviewed the intent of the law, locations that the law regulates and which agencies are involved in enforcement. Also highlighted were the violation fines. Questions from the attendees included whether statistics are available to show that the law has had an effect on smoking rates. Tammy reported that data is available and includes statistics from both sales and surveys. Tammy will be available to make presentations to companies who might like more information or want to conduct training for employees regarding this issue.

Donathan Cassidy, Farm Bureau Credit, brought information about the services that his company provides including home loans, home construction loans, farm loans, farming equipment, and live stock loans. Because they are a rural lender, eligible residential properties must be located outside of city limits. Mr. Cassidy also discussed community projects that Farm Bureau Credit supports including an active scholarship program. Julie requested more information for the next academic year.

Approval of Agenda: Motioned by Larry; 2nd by Kay. Motion approved.

Wayne welcomed new member: Warwick Associates

Approval of February minutes: Sheila motioned to accept; Ron 2nd. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Judy reported a starting balance of \$3140.49 and an ending balance of \$4228.94. Expenses totaled \$1078.91. Of the ending balance, \$1710.58 is for the Education Foundation, leaving a general fund balance of \$2518.36. Von moved to accept the treasurer's report and Kay 2nd. Motion passed.

President's Report: Julie abbreviated her report in the interest of time. **Tourism-** Jennipher reported that she had brought marketing material from the county marinas, the NHTC maps, and brochures from Big Ridge to the Knoxville Sports and Tourism Bureau to put in their visitor information kiosks. **Keep Union County Beautiful** –Citizens can report “dirty” roads on the KUBC web site keepunioncobeautiful.org. **Broadband-ARRA Grant, Google Fiber Project, Mobile Broadband, WIFI at Library-** Julie reported that she is completing the second round application for ARRA grant money for broadband in rural communities. She updated the board on the Google fiber project and encouraged individuals to nominate the Union County/ Claiborne County community. Lastly, Julie discussed ATT's acquisition of additional cell sites and the potential of additional federal funding to bring broadband to rural communities. Wifi is now available at Maynardville library. Contact Chantay for a password. **Three Star and annual certification-** Shan Harris will be in Union County to review the annual re-certification and changes in the program. Julie distributed the benchmark documents and needs the annual reports by March 31. The Tennessee 3 STAR program was recognized for an Innovator Award and will be recognized with a \$100,000 grant. **2010 EDETA Report:** Julie distributed the ECD inquiry data for Oct 2009- Feb 2010. Most frequent contacts were for Greenfield sites and food production sites. **Economic Development Web Site:** The Chamber is currently building the new web pages for industrial and retail recruitment. For individuals that have commercial properties or commercial land that they would like to have listed, please contact the Chamber.

Board Action:

Old Business:

Rebecca reported a profit of \$3000 was made from the banquet and an additional \$1700 was raised from the auction. There were 180 tickets sold and about 190 people participated in the dinner. Rebecca reviewed the results of a survey that were sent to selected individuals. Overall, the feedback was very positive for the format and location. The results of the survey will be used in planning next year's event. Rebecca also thanked her committee- Darlene, Diane, Jennipher and Julie for their efforts. Ron and Kay requested a copy of the survey and Julie will email that document to them.

Rebecca also recognized our sponsors and vendors: Gold: Arctel, Inc, Beach Island Resort and Marina, Beverage Solutions Group, A&B Book Keeping , Woodman of the World, First Team Realty, Food City, ORNL Credit Union County, FSG Bank, Friends of

Norris Shores, Norris Lake Resource Center/ Shirlee Grabko, Mercy Health Systems, State Farm Insurance, David Myers Attorney, Sunset Bay Home Owners; Silver: Abundant Health & Wellness, Inc, Mary Kay/ Bills Home Improvement/ Andrews Drafting, Okie's Pharmacy, Sunset Bay Home Owners, Willowridge Care & Rehabilitation Center,

Other Special Thanks to:

Jay Elbacher, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 812, UT Extension and 4H students, 33 Diner, Rondo's, Pete's Place, Jenn's Dog Cart, Sharps Chapel General Store, William Von Schipmann, Lady Sweet Pants, Beverage Solutions Group, Oopsy Daisy, Flowers by Bob, Color Me Salon, Diane Allen, CC Acres, Hazel Erickson, Captivating Keepsakes, Jackie Elbacher, Gun Shack, Dollywood, Betty Bullen, Rusty Ryder, Jennifer

So far in 2010, the Education Foundation with funds raised by the Chamber has donated \$871.00 for books and tuition for the dual enrollment students at the high school. Recognition to the Norris Shores Homeowner's Association who donated \$200 to assist with tuition for a student this semester.

Mayor Lay reported that the ribbon cutting for the extension of water lines into the Norris Shores subdivision was held on Monday, March 15. The work will begin April 15 and will be completed in about 6 months.

Julie reported that the community visioning survey will close on March 31 and results will be available in April. The summary will be used for updating the county's strategic plan. The TVA would like to participate in this project and more details will follow. It is hoped that a time can be set to encourage active community and local government participation in the plan. To date, there have been over 200 responses to the survey.

New Business:

Julie reported that Jack Rhyne had sent a report of the city ordinances for signs. The signs must be at least 1 foot from the sidewalk, not obstruct view in an intersection, nor exceed a height of 25 ft. Additionally for signs on state roads, TDOT requirements must be met. The chamber has on file the TDOT regulations.

Committee Reports: Wayne announced the following committees- Strategic Planning: Chair- Goforth, Atkins T, Inklebarger, Jones, Von, Buckner, Mayor Lay, and Jack Rhyne; Bylaws and Nominations: Thompson, Erickson, This committee needs an additional member and a chair; Tourism: Chair- Churchill, Atkins E, Atkins T; and Banquet: Chair- Mills, Bruce, Allen, and Wine. Julie will provide the Chairs with the email addresses of their members.

Tourism Committee- Mike reported on the recent changes by the TWRA regarding the small mouth bass slot limits. He detailed the efforts to date from local fishing enthusiasts, county commission's resolution and the impact that previous slot

limits on stripers had on his business. The group is moving forward to make sure that the county is represented on the Norris Lake Fishing Advisory Council with the 5 positions that are allotted for Union County. Von moved that the Chamber support the resolution #01 03-08-2010 passed by County Commission on March 8, 2010 and Kay 2nd. Julie will draft a letter of support for the resolution and also share this information with the Claiborne, Anderson and Campbell chambers.

Mike then summarized the survey that was conducted by the Friends of Norris Lake regarding use and restrictions on the lake, as well as water safety checks and training classes. Most of the recommendations regarding safety and training were favorable supported, but restrictions on boat length, motor size, use of the lake on weekends or tax on commercial and residential boat slips/docks were viewed unfavorable.

Wayne reported that the Heritage Festival Board had met and the 2010 festival date is set for Saturday, October 2. The festival is currently constrained with its budget, so Wayne discussed a fundraising idea that the Board is considering for Saturday, May 29. This will coincide with the last day of school for the 2009-2010 academic calendar.

Ron motioned for a vote by acclamation that Jennifer be recognized for her achievement in being selected to serve in Washington DC as a congressional aide for Minnesota Congressman Michelle Bachman. Von 2nd. Vote was unanimous.

Wayne reviewed the announcements:

Choice Directory ads will be accepted through April 2010. Contact the Chamber if you want to subscribe.

Leadership Council is hosting a spaghetti dinner on March 20 at the high school. Proceeds benefit scholarships for Youth Leadership.

Upcoming Great America Clean-ups are scheduled for 3/20 in Sharps Chapel at 10A, 4/17 @ Beach Island Resort Marina (this is a water-shoreline clean-up) at 10A and May 22 at Big Ridge State Park @ 9A. For more information, contact Lynsey at KUCB.

Youth Leadership will be visiting the state capital and meeting with Sen Faulk and Rep Faulkner on April 6.

The groundbreaking for the new elementary school in Paulette is scheduled for Saturday, April 10 at 10A.

Willow Ridge Care & Rehabilitation Center has a team in the upcoming Knoxville Memory Walk on April 17th. Anyone wishing to donate or walk may contact Rebecca Mills at 992-5816

The United Way is hosting a 5K run on May 15 at Wilson Park. For more information, contact the United Way.

The Shriners are hosting a Music Festival on May 15 at Wilson Park from 10A-6PM.

UCBPA is hosting the annual Prayer Breakfast on Friday, April 2 from 8-10A. Dr Darryl Johnson will be the speaker and proceeds benefit the UCBPA scholarship program.

Union County Parks and Recreation are hosting their annual Easter egg hunt at Wilson Park on March 27 @ 10A. For more information, contact Justin Collins.

The American Legion Post 213 is hosting the 2nd Annual Youth Free Fishing Tournament at Big Ridge State Park on June 12.

The spotlight on business for April will be Andrews Drafting.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 20 at 12 @ the Chamber offices

Meeting Adjourned at 1:05 PM.