

Pocahontas County Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting
December 18, 2008
McClintic Library, Marlinton

The meeting, held at the McClintic Library, was called to order by President Malinda Meck at 6:10 p.m. Present were: Nelson Hernandez, Malinda Meck, Gail Hyer, David Cain, Kevin Wingfield, Gayle Boyette, John Mutscheller, Ginny Ramos, Sherry Radcliff, and Helen Woolridge.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved after a motion to do so by member Woolridge and a second by member Boyette.

Member Ramos gave an update on the **business and service awards**. Only one service nomination has been made. Member Ramos informed us that member Malcomb indicated he would help pay for the award plaques as long as it were under \$500.00. Member Ramos also offered to nominate a business based on the consensus of those board members present.

Treasurer Cain then made a **financial report** and included copies of the most recent bank statement, an income report from 11/21 – 12/18/2008. Member Radcliff made motion, seconded by Member Hernandez, the monthly report be accepted as offered, passed unanimously. President Meck asked if Treasurer Cain could submit a Profit/Loss itemization for future reports; Treasurer Cain agreed.

Member Hyer made the following motion concerning the **finance committee**: “To appoint a committee of three people (one of which is the current treasurer) to comprise the finance committee. The job of such committee is to develop an annual operating budget with specific line items. Such detailed line items included in the budget would not have to have board approval prior to reimbursement, however, anything over the detailed amount or not listed in the budget, would require Board approval as would any item that the treasurer had a question about.” Motion seconded by member Boyette, passed unanimously. Committee members appointed by President Meck include David Cain, Kevin Winfield, and Sherry Radcliff. The group agreed to review the proposed budget at the February meeting so it could be in place by the next term of officers.

Member Woolridge gave a **report on the Web site**: September sessions were 2281 for November 2008. Member Cain made a motion seconded by member Hernandez to retain the pointer Web site pccoc.com at a cost of not more than \$30.00 per year, passed unanimously.

Member Hernandez made a committee report regarding **Web member pages** and charges involved. It was the committee’s opinion that actual fee of making such page be the only charge issued to members, therefore using the element as a member benefit. The board accepted the report and thanked the committee for their work.

Member Hyer made a report of **the staffing committee** with recommendations that the board continue to work with Experience Works on finding a part time staff person. Because the Experience Works program is contingent upon non-profit status, member Cain acknowledged the Chamber was not currently a 501 C non-profit corporation and said he would investigate what forms had to be filled out, etc to secure such status. The Board agreed to allow the staffing committee to continue to work on such project and bring the Board more information as it becomes available.

President Meck explained she had not heard from the **Chamber Choice** representative but that she would follow up with him to see if he would be available as a speaker for the January meeting.

Member Hernandez made a report on the **Make It Shine program** as an effort to support this spring. No other members had checked in either the northern or southern parts of the county to see if either had qualifying opportunities to incorporate into the program for spring. Member Boyette offered to contact the Elk River Watershed project, member Hyer offered to contact Hillsboro Mayor, member Wingfield offered to make contact with Snowshoe Mountain and President Meck offered to make contact with the Durbin/Green Bank regions. The official Make It Shine cleanup will be observed April 17, 18, and 19, 2009.

Member Radcliff made a report on the **mission statement** from that committee. The following was offered as the mission statement: "The mission of the Pocahontas County Chamber of Commerce is to promote a progressive, sustainable business climate for its members through development, networking and education in order to enhance both business and residential environments as we preserve our unique culture."

Motion to accept made by member Boyette, seconded by member Cain, approved unanimously.

The Chamber's **annual meeting** in was discussed; Mountain Quest will host the event on March 26th. All agreed that a short update on Snowshoe Mountain lodging would be very appropriate. Member Hyer offered to ask Ron Cadrette from Snowshoe Mountain to give a short update on Snowshoe Mountain's status.

Member Hyer offered to **contact Ruth Taylor** for a current status of the Autumn Harvest Queen and WV RoadKill Cookoff Queen competing for the state Dramas, Fairs, and Festivals crown.

The group discussed **education workshops** that they might sponsor in the future; member Ramos offered to contact Snowshoe Career Center to see if they might be offering a Web design workshop, she will get back to the group in the January meeting.

Member Cain gave a report on his recent **attendance at the state Chamber of Commerce meeting**. The overall point of the meeting according to Cain was how to improve chamber memberships. He had several handouts that member Hyer said she would scan and send out as attachments to the rest of the board as soon as member Cain furnished the information.

Member Boyette made a **motion to adjourn**, seconded by member Woolridge, passed unanimously; adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hyer, Secretary