

**Locust Grove Area Chamber Meeting**  
August 12, 2015  
**Minutes**

**Call to Order by:** Toni Turner (4:35 p.m.)

**Pledge:** Jennifer Henson

**Prayer:** Jennifer Henson

**Minutes approved:** 1<sup>st</sup> Jeff Kerr 2<sup>nd</sup> Jennifer Henson

**Financials approved:** 1<sup>st</sup> Season Stillion 2<sup>nd</sup> Jerry Yates

**Old Business:**

1. Locust Grove Arts Alliance members Shaun Perkins and Betty Perkins filled flower pots on Main Street with flowers bought with Chamber money. Marsha Evans donated the dirt. Two other pots have since been discovered, and Betty Perkins said that she had the flowers to plant in them.
2. Vicky Herr, Roxann Yates, Jennifer Henson, and Debby Perry volunteered to be the committee in charge of the Christmas parade. See details in the upcoming activities.
3. Jerry Yates and Marsha Evans are on the committee considering the purchase of Christmas lights and decorations.
4. Jeff Kerr made a motion to write off the computer. Jerry Yates seconded the motion. The computer is more than 5 years old and is obsolete. Jeff said that there is no financial business on the computer. And members discussed a means of disposing of it. It was mentioned that Jason Williams donated a laptop that is being used by the Chamber. Mark Palmer volunteered his computer expertise if needed.

## **Membership Drive:**

Roxann Yates reported that 4 new members have joined the Chamber. She said dues would be given to Marsha Evans. Jerry Yates said that the new members need to be sent the SWOT analysis form to fill out, and he reminded other members to do their surveys and return to Marsha.

## **Upcoming Activities:**

1. Theresa Mennecke reported that the August 5th delivery of doughnuts (purchased from Sisters Sweets) for the teachers was a success. Michael Gordon suggested making the breakfast a signature event to do every year. Gordon also mentioned asking businesses to help sponsor the event and that local restaurants may wish to sponsor the next breakfast. Sandy Burford made the motion for the breakfast to become an annual Chamber event. Michael Gordon seconded the motion. Debby Perry, Roxann Yates, and Theresa Mennecke agreed to lead this committee. Betty Perkins added that at the luncheon for teachers held at The First United Methodist Church, teachers were given the LGAA newsletter that contains Chamber news and other community news.

2. Debby Perry informed members that the city-wide Halloween event will be on October 30. The tentative time will be 4:30 p.m. She said that information will be sent to the Chamber by the Friends of the Library chairpersons.

3. Christmas parade committee members Vicky Herr, Roxann Yates, Jennifer Henson, and Debby Perry are planning the parade. Tina Ross and Michael Gordon mentioned that businesses involved in the parade need to be identified. Gordon suggested coming up with a plan for businesses to sponsor the parade and advertise their sponsorships.

The Christmas parade will be held December 5 at 2 p.m.

Toni Turner mentioned that safe parade rules should be followed when concerning minors riding on horses and ATVs, and asked members to check

into maintaining safe parade practices.

4. Members discussed setting up on the grounds of the Dari-Ette before home football games to sell Indian tacos as a fundraiser for the parade and other Chamber needs. Approximate times for the fundraiser will be from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Other menu items were discussed too. Debby Perry said that she had cleared the events with Lori Helton, school superintendent. Jennifer Henson said that she would contact the football coaches to make sure there is no conflict with any food fundraiser they may be doing.

Instead of setting up tables on the grounds of Dari-Ette, members agreed to tailgate, and members were asked to help with the events. Sandy Burford made a motion to tailgate the event. And Jennifer Henson seconded the motion.

5. Jerry Yates, Theresa Mennecke, Sandy Burford, and Mark Palmer volunteered to help with ribbon cuttings. (Wayne Perego was in charge of the ribbon cuttings but has since resigned from the Chamber.) Jeff Kerr suggested sending an email to Chamber members before each cutting to see how many could show up for the events. Five businesses have recently opened and are on the list for ribbon cuttings. Debby Perry mentioned that *The Daily Times* should be contacted before each event.

Other--

1. Jerry Yates related that at the Town Hall meeting on August 10, he asked Mayor Steve Perry for trash cans to be placed downtown. The mayor said that he would check on adding 4 to Main Street after talking to those responsible for the current town trash collection route. Sandy Burford mentioned checking into recyclable trash cans. Dumpsites and trash problems were discussed. The Chamber will wait on news from the Town Hall to discuss this issue further.

2. Discussion continued about how to recognize Chamber members through plaques and window signs, the development of a Chamber logo, and

certificates to be given at ribbon cuttings. This will continue to be an agenda item until decisions are made.

**New Business:**

1. Toni Turner asked Shaun Perkins to maintain the Chamber's Facebook page. She agreed to do so.

2. The following mission and vision statements were accepted to be placed in the revised bylaws:

**Mission Statement:** To advance the economic, civic, educational, and cultural growth of Locust Grove and the surrounding area.

**Vision Statement:** To enhance the quality of life in our community and to foster continuous improvement of the Locust Grove area as a place in which to conduct business and enjoy life.

Season Stillion made the motion to accept the statements. Theresa Mennecke seconded the motion.

Next meeting September 9, 2015 at 4:30p.m. at Town Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m., 1<sup>st</sup> Betty Perkins, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jerry Yates.