

Minutes of February 7, 2007 Meeting
Olivet Community Chamber of Commerce

Meeting was called to order by President, Becky Ramage..

Treasurer's Report and Minutes were circulated and accepted as printed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Publicity- Gail Duncan has draft of the newsletter. Hopefully, it will go out by the end of the week.
- Membership- Becky Ramage reported that there are still a few outstanding dues that she is working to collect.
- Membership letters are to be mailed out in April. We will try once again to have a quicker turn-around so that the directories can be printed in a more timely manner.
- Community Center- No problems to address
- College Report- President Don Tuski was present and presented several goals that the college would like to achieve within the next several years including renovation of the Mott Building, the construction of an Event Center and Fieldhouse at the Football Stadium, expand student housing, and perhaps construct an Art Building.
- President Tuski also suggested that through his contacts with Olivet College Alumni he has a sense that there may be some who would be interested in investing in bringing new businesses to the City. Don would like to form a committee composed of chamber members, city officials, community members who would be interested in the development of this idea.
- Ed Heator once again reminded members that it is possible to have newsletters from the college e-mailed to them so that they can stay current with happenings at the college. Just provide him with individual e-mails.
- Fundraising- Becky Southern suggested that we hold a Slogan Contest to generate ideas for a phrase associated with our town. This slogan could then be used on all correspondence, advertising, etc. After discussion, it was agreed that we would present a prize of \$250 to the winning entry which will be voted on at our April meeting. Flyers advertising the contest will be placed throughout town, distributed through the school, and advertised in the County Journal.

Becky also suggested hosting a Family Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction in the fall with proceeds from this event used to adopt families within the community at holiday time.

Paula Bashore brought us up to date on the Cabin Fever Blues Festival scheduled for Saturday, 3/3/07, which she is spearheading. Since she has not heard back from any of the individuals at the college whom she had contacted to provide Blue's music, we will be using cd's for the music. The event will be set up as a street fair with children's games, tatoos, the chili cookoff, a beard contest, and a sledding hill. The city has agreed to close East Street between Main and Court Streets. The festivities will run from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM and will conclude with the awarding of prizes. The membership voted to authorize up to \$1,000 to be spent on this event.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Becky Ramage presented a "State of the Chamber" report as we are about to embark on our fifth year. Although much has been accomplished over the last four years, she feels we need to set some short and long term goals for the future of our organization to include:

- Increase awareness of the chamber
- Increase membership which will also increase funds and ideas
- Increase participation by current members
- Utilize and organize the current committee list
- Increase our activities and fundraising

She emphasized that future member involvement may revolve around assignments rather than volunteerism.

She asked that we also remember one of our initial goals to remain positive and supportive of each other.

OLD BUSINESS

Thank-yous have gone out to the college for allowing us the opportunity to park cars this past fall.

Becky Ramage has provided Chamber information to three new businesses in town.

To date there are still seven businesses/individuals with outstanding dues.

NEW BUSINESS

At the March meeting we will be taking nominations for the following offices for the upcoming year:

Vice President
Treasurer
Trustee-2

In addition, we are still in need of a secretary since the current treasurer has been covering both offices for the last year.

All offices other than the secretary (which will be one year) will have a two year term.

Becky Ramage presented information on the Old Historic US27 Power Tour which is scheduled to be held August 21-26. This will be an old car cruise from Coldwater to Cheboygan on Old 27. We may want to consider having banners, etc. to welcome the traveler's through town.

Becky Ramage presented an idea for placing a full page ad for the Chamber in the County Journal listing all members. This could be expanded to a monthly ad highlighting individual businesses with ad costs paid by those businesses each month. A sample page was passed around to view. We will have further discussion about this idea at our next meeting.

Nora Hempel and guest, Richard Boughner, shared information concerning the proposed Airport Expansion in Charlotte and its impact on Walton Township and the surrounding area. They encouraged everyone present to attend upcoming meetings that will be held at the township and city level. The City of Charlotte expects to make a decision concerning the airport sometime in April.

Meeting adjourned-7:35 pm.

Members present:	Becky Ramage	Ben Hart	Gail Duncan	Larry Marsh
	Cindy Waun	Becky Southern	Gary Peterson	Ed Heator
	Nora Hempel	Glenda Kling	Jennifer Elliott	Paula Bashore

Visitors:	Don Tuski	Richard Boughner
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OLIVET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Finances

2-6-07 to 3-6-07

Income

Dues	120.00
Community Center Rental Fees-Nov-Feb	750.00
TOTAL INCOME	870.00

Expenses

Postage-mail newsletters	43.29
Return of security deposit-Alycia Hamaker	75.00
Money for cash prizes- <i>Cabin Fever Blues Festival</i>	380.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	498.29

Beginning Checkbook Balance	\$7,091.57
Ending Checkbook Balance	\$7,463.28