

Chamber of Commerce Membership Meeting
May 8, 2008
Minutes

- 1. Introduction of Attendees:** Benjamin Smith, Ertel Publishing; Vicki McClellan, Ertel Publishing; Chuck and Letha Kimball, Kimball's Estate Jewelry; Roger Reynolds, Chamber Music and Glen Helen; Phyllis Evans, Yellow Springs Senior Center; Randy Gifford, Reichley Insurance Agency; Joe Cook, Toter Teardrop Trailer Company; Elisabeth DeForest, YSI Incorporated; Jacki Mayer, WYSO; Jon Castonguay, WYSO; Macy Reynolds, United Methodist Church; Kenneth Huber, YS Senior Center; Bill Bebko, Jim's Group; Corinne Pelzl, Carr Nursery; Anthony Barry, Super-Fly Comics and Games; Priscilla Moore, Mr. Fub's Party; Donna Avnaim, Déjà Vu; Karen Wintrow, YS Chamber of Commerce; Karl Coloñ, Greene County Public Library; Mary Alice Wilson, Dark Star Books; Karl Zalar, Friends Care; Nakia Angelique, The Pebble Effect; Hardy Ballantine, Ballantine Bookcrafts; Rodney Bean, YS Senior Citizens Center

- 2. Meeting Minutes:** Minutes of April were approved as written. (Reynolds, Bebko)

- 3. Announcements:**
 - Orange Frazier Press, "Particular Places", 12 pages on Yellow Springs; Active Dayton voting for Ha Ha Pizza. Please vote.
 - Men's group voted to change the name Men's Group of Yellow Springs, dba as James A McKee group with an informal name as Jim's Group.
 - WYSO and Glen Helen along with the rest of Yellow Springs Community Garage Sale, occurring on Saturday May 17.
 - Live music at Déjà Vu for Friday Fling.
 - Health and Wellness this Saturday at Mills Lawn

- 4. Reports**

Board Report: Chamber and CR working together, still moving forward in economic development, hired part-time chamber employee for office, Steven McDaniel. The Chamber is looking into expanding the lights for Holiday in the Village, and discovered that they are unable to hook into Village electricity.

Finance Report: Karen explained deficit of 40K for marketing plan (actually a target) and we are currently at 25K.

Staff Report:

- Membership - Expecting a lot of renewals to come in due to the summer Street Fair. Steven will take on the task of membership renewals.
- Business after Hours – A special thank you to the library for hosting the recent event. The next event will be hosted by Creative Explorations (above Global Gallery). Those with educational component or new space tend to receive higher attendance in these events.
- April Fling in the Springs – Continues to build in attendance and the advertising is working - getting a lot of participants from Cincinnati and Columbus, May's theme is shopping (in conjunction with the community-wide garage sale). The Chamber is sponsoring and promoting the event. Garage sales signs will be available for free through Remax and Corner Cone as well as a map of the village. Celtic group will be performing in King's Yard. Extra ads and classifieds will be going out for garage sales.
- June 14 Street Fair: Will offer beer sales at the Bryan Center along with the music venue; food booths will move from Short Street to Walnut Street (in front of Mills Lawn) improving former congestion issues and providing better electricity and water access. Former booth spaces on Glen Street will move to Xenia Avenue. Short Street will have booths on one side only. The Aerial Angels will be moved closer to center of Xenia Ave., for less congestion. Local entertainment will occur on the funeral center lawn to create a natural loop from food vendors to merchant booths. In total, we are able to add 33 booths. Greene Cats, a shuttle service will offer transportation between the Street Fair, YSI, Antioch Company, and Young's Jersey Dairy. YSI has agreed to sponsor a bus for 3 hours (\$50/hour/bus) and more sponsors are sought.
- The June 20th event will kick off the Arts Stroll, Chamber Pot opening, and Summer in the Springs (8 week summer program through 8/15). Arts Council, YSKP and Chamber are sponsors. A brochure will be produced with events occurring in the summer.
- July 18 – PT Cruiser parade. Looking to put together a gift bag from YS merchants.
- August 15 – Yellow Springs Grand Prix (bicycle race around Mills Lawn).
- Marketing: WYSO ads are ongoing and connecting with the Flings and the community-wide garage sale. Postcards in conjunction with Ertel; memorial bricks, and tee shirts available for sale,
- Co-sponsoring Springfield Business after Hours at Antioch McGregor with the Springfield Chamber of Commerce, June 16th Cost is \$20/person - \$25 at the door and is a good opportunity to network with the Springfield business community.

5. Presentation: Senior Center Overview

At last Board meeting, they voted not to make major modifications to the Senior Center building. Cost was a large factor of the decision. They agree that they are short on space and privacy and the old core does not lend itself to flexibility. Catalyst for this decision was the Barr property – could be space for the center at that location. This location would still be downtown; people would be living there and could make good use of it. One constraint was noted: ideally should be on one level and this location would be on two levels.

Many programs are offered at the Center such as defibrillator training through the local fire department, weaving group, flexercize activities, and seated volleyball. However, they are changing from social to more service center and social aspects. Homecare, home assistance program, transportation services (could use 2 more volunteers), and more services will be needed as the community ages. One very important and appreciated service that they provide is the “emergency room reassurance program.” Eight volunteers take turns caring for a dedicated cell phone that the emergency squad calls so that seniors without others (friends, family) are met at the hospital by a volunteer to help them feel more comfortable. If they are not admitted, the volunteer will stay will take them home.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.

Minutes submitted by Elisabeth DeForest