

Pocahontas County Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting
November 20, 2008
Snowshoe Career Center, Marlinton

The meeting, held at the Snowshoe Career Center in Marlinton, 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, Jerry Ramos, Sunny Given, Sherry Radcliff, Helen Woolridge, Bill Harold and Coby Brown. Visiting were Arthur and Mary Kreft and Rick Malcomb.

Jerry Ramos made a report on the **service and business awards** and reminded everyone the deadline for nominating either a business or individual for an award is December 11. Forms can be found on the Chamber Web site – www.pccocwv.com

The group adjourned for a photo shoot, and then returned back to the meeting.

President Meck read a **letter from the Town of Marlinton** commending the Chamber on their outstanding work on the West Virginia RoadKill Cook-off and Autumn Harvest Festival.

Treasurer David Cain gave a report on the **disbursements due payment** which included three – one to Red Eft for \$339.20, Pocahontas County Tourism for \$1000.00 and another to Hannah Insurance for \$713.09. Member Radcliff made motion, second by member Given to approve the charges for payment, motion carried.

Treasurer Cain then gave his report on the **finances of the Chamber**. Current balance in checkbook is \$14,853.68. Member Radcliff made a motion to accept the report as given, second by member Harold, motion carried.

Treasurer Cain then made a **financial report** of the WV RoadKill Cook-off and Autumn Harvest Festival for 2008. Total profit for the Chamber was \$2,804.47. Copy of report is attached to these minutes.

Member Woolridge gave a **report on the Web site**: September sessions were 3959 and October's were 3442. President Meck gave a report on the charges for members to have their own Web page on our site. The figures include: \$100.00 for one page to include three photos and 100 – 150 words of text. This would include two yearly updates with additional work to be charged out at \$20.00 per hour. President Meck appointed a committee of three to investigate what charges should be made to Chamber members to participate in the membership page. Committee includes: Gail Hyer, Sherry Radcliff, and Nelson Hernandez. The committee will report in the December meeting.

The **staffing committee submitted** the job description they are asked to compile for a staffing position for the Chamber. The members will review the description and make any recommendations or additions to the committee. The committee will also now research what alternatives are available to the Chamber for funding the position.

The **issue of emailing** members for action on issues or disbursements was next on the agenda.

Secretary Hyer (Parliamentarian) referred to Robert's Rules of Order Second Edition clearly states ". . . Simultaneous communication is essential to the deliberative nature of meetings." Robert's Rules of Order in Plain English Second Edition recommends against the attempted use of e-mail for meeting purposes. Member Boyette will demonstrate a net meeting or Webinar later in the meeting. This simultaneous involvement is accepted by Robert's Rules of Order as long as a valid quorum can be proved and recorded. Member Ramos made a motion, seconded by member Harold to not consider e-mail as a workable method of convening meetings but to look at the possibility of the Webinar, motion carried.

The group discussed the **Make It Shine program** as an effort to support this spring. Member Hernandez gave a report and information about possibilities throughout the county. Members were asked to look around their own communities with suggestions for the Make It Shine program. MIS programs receive gloves, bags, one trash truck, highway signs and other equipment/tools to assist in this program. Member Ramos made the motion, seconded by member Hernandez, each member to identify and contact persons in charge of their local municipalities and areas and come back in December with ideas and suggestions for MIS target projects, motion carried. Member Given offered to do a news release in the Pocahontas Times so the public could recommend target projects.

The **Friendly Merchant program** was tabled until another meeting.

Member Radcliff gave a report on **the mission statement** committee's work. She will send copies of items to be covered to the rest of the Chamber members for remarks and comments.

Treasurer Cain reported that the required applications were completed and that once again the Chamber is a 990N qualified as a **non-profit organization**.

Gayle Boyette demonstrated the **GoToMeeting**. Several members brought their laptops and participated. The group agreed that with sufficient practice the Webinar meetings could achieve a quorum for meetings even in times of bad weather or out of area travel. Thanks Gayle – you did a great job and made it look so easy!

Some discussion followed on the **Chamber's involvement in the AHF and WVRKCO beauty pageant**. There appears to be a lack of communication with the person who was in charge of the program during the actual competition. Now our queens are in jeopardy of not being able to participate in the state competition. No motions, but a consensus that the Chamber need to do a better job with it next year or cease support.

The board talked about having a budget for the next FY year to include line items. The next meeting a finance committee will be asked to take charge of this job.

Next meeting at the Snowshoe Career center on December 18, 2008. Member Brown made motion to adjourn at 7:54, seconded by member Harold, carried.

Thank everyone for attending – it was a great meeting.

Respectfully submitted - Gail Hyer, Secretary