

Edinburg Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes

August 27, 2009

In attendance: Tracy Miller, Mary Embrey, Noel Frye, Sue Horne, Justin Wightman, Steve Wood and Lauren Culler.

The meeting was called to order by Tracy Miller at 5:30 p.m.

The July 23, 2009 minutes were approved.

The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Lauren Culler, who is designing the new Town/Chamber website, came to the meeting so she could get all the final details as to what the Town and Chamber wanted on the site.

Ms. Miller stated that she wanted the membership form, the by-laws, the chamber members and a calendar on the new website.

Ms. Frye suggested that available commercial rental space in town should be on the site, as well as a monthly "Business of the Month" spotlight.

Ms. Horne stated that instead of saying "Welcome to Our Edinburg and Chamber of Commerce", it should say "Welcome to Edinburg and Our Chamber of Commerce".

Ms. Frye liked the scrolling pictures, but thought there should be more pictures of Chamber businesses.

Ms. Miller like the scrolling pictures of the businesses and houses. Ms. Miller would also like the Chamber membership list and the membership form available on the site.

Everyone present at the meeting really liked the new layout of the site.

Ms. Miller suggested putting the Chamber Board of Directors and Members on the same page. She would like the Chamber Minutes posted on the site as well.

Ms. Embrey suggested that email addresses be added on the home page.

Mr. Wood thought that on the home page, it should state that Chamber Members could be individuals, as well as businesses.

Ms. Miller suggested that the home page should say "Edinburg Area Chamber of Commerce". She also suggested that the Town or Chamber should get permission from the home and/or business owners to put pictures of their properties on the website.

Ms. Miller inquired as to when the site would be "live". Ms. Culler stated that the site was now 50% complete and within the next week, she will work on the changes and add the new pages.

Ms. Miller asked Ms. Culler to put some kind of "under construction" message on the current Chamber site. She has gotten a lot of calls and comments about the current site being out of date. Ms. Culler agreed and stated that she has access to the current Chamber site.

Mr. Wood inquired as to who would be doing the maintenance on the new website when it is complete. Ms. Culler stated that Ms. Embrey and Ms. Heier would be doing the maintenance.

Ms. Frye thought there should be a page for current events.

Ms. Miller thought there should be a special page for the Christmas Parade and the Parlor Tours.

Ms. Culler stated that she could add links from within the events page for special events.

Ms. Miller suggested that all of the links be available on both the Town and the Chamber sides.

Ms. Culler suggested that there could be a possible discount for customers if they told the business owner they saw their business on the "Business of the Month" Spotlight.

Ms. Miller thought that the Ole' Time Festival, all the links, the churches and the map should be available on both sides of the site.

Ms. Horne suggested that there be some kind of information package for new

businesses.

Ms. Miller stated that the Chamber Banquet would be on Thursday, October 1st from 6:00-9:00 p.m. A speaker has not yet been found. Ms. Miller inquired as to whether or not anyone had any suggestions for a speaker.

Ms. Frye suggested Joan Sharpe. Mr. Wood suggested the man (name??) who knows a lot about the Edinburg Mill.

Mr. Wood stated that the Ole' Time Festival thought that Sal's price was too high and that the Festival was going to rent St. Paul's Church for their banquet and have it catered.

Ms. Frye suggested the Banquet be at the Church and that heavy appetizers be served.

Ms. Miller stated that she liked the attraction of Sal's and liked that everything was there and the clean up would be done. She suggested that we could charge \$30.00 per person. She also suggested that there be a 50/50 drawing before dinner. Ms. Miller asked Ms. Embrey to clarify the date and the menu with Sal.

Ms. Horne wondered why one would come to Sal's and pay so much just for the Banquet.

Ms. Miller thought people would pay more to support the Chamber.

Ms. Horne stated that a good speaker is definitely needed.

Ms. Frye suggested that "special speaker" be put on the Banquet invitation since we need to get the invitations out soon.

Ms. Miller brought up the idea of having the Banquet at the Edinburg Fire Hall. She thinks they only charge around \$12.00 per person. She attended a function there that had an open bar with beer and wine an hour before dinner. She also said white tablecloths were rented and that the meal was very nice.

Ms. Miller stated that she would get hold of Debbie tomorrow regarding renting the Fire Hall for the Banquet.

Ms. Miller stated that she thought there should be no meeting in September.

Ms. Miller asked Mr. Wightman to check on tablecloth rental prices.

Ms. Miller asked Ms. Embrey to hold off on contacting Sal's until she talks to Debbie at the Fire Hall. She also suggested that we should have another Chamber Banquet meeting soon.

Ms. Frye reported that the County Chamber Advisory meetings are the second Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the County Office building in Woodstock. The Chamber will have to find someone else to attend those meetings every month since her last day here is Tuesday, September 1st.

Ms. Frye stated that the Yard Crawl went very well in Edinburg and a fair amount of Yard Crawl t-shirts were sold. She also stated that 49 out of 85 were sold and the shirts that didn't sell could be returned.

Ms. Miller reported that the Christmas Chamber Mixer will be hosted by the Edinburg Village Shop and the Christmas Parade will be on Saturday, December 5th. She also reported that the Candlelight Tours will be on Friday, December 11th from 5:00-8:00 p.m. and on Saturday, December 12th from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Ms. Miller reported that so far the following will be hosting the Parlor Tours: the Morris's, the Layman's, Wightman Insurance, the McDonald's, Renaissance **B&B** and Pat Bennett. There are some others that we still have not heard from yet, and we need more!

Ms. Miller stated that she thought a program should be done for the Banquet. She plans to do the Welcome, have dinner, introduce the speaker, introduce the Outstanding Citizen of the Year and the Business of the Year and then pass the torch to Mr. Wood as the new Chamber President.

Ms. Frye stated that Chamber will need a new Treasurer. She explained all the Treasurer really needs to do is pay the bills and do the Treasurer's Report every month.

Ms. Embrey inquired as to whether or not the Chamber was going to have a float in the Edinburg Ole' Time Festival this year. Ms. Miller said no, they were not going to have one.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Mary L. Embrey