

THE GREATER INMAN OF AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

February 2, 2016

Meeting Minutes

The GIACC held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at Starry Night Event Center. In attendance were Board members David Grayshock, Teri Newmark, Cliff Newmark, Tom Plemmons and Zylphia Ables. A quorum was present. Also in attendance were: Wendy McCarty – Chamber Photographer, Chamber members Doug Hurlbert and Jacque Varty (Griswold Home Care).

David Grayshock, President welcomed everyone then called the meeting to order. The meeting continued with:

- Reading of January meeting minutes. With a motion from Teri to approve minutes as read and a second from Zylphia, minutes were approved unanimously.
- Reading of December financial report. Cliff stated that the report will be emailed to the board upon completion in the next few days.
- David read the draft of the 2016 Harvest Day Sponsorship letter. Board approved.
- David stated that he wants to make sure that Bessie receives notice of ALL Committee meetings so they can be posted on the website and facebook page.
- David stated that the board had a 2016 GIACC budget meeting on 1/21 and there are a few things outstanding that will be settled at next budget meeting on 2/16 when Harvest Day budget will also be discussed. He stated that all committees need to state what funds they will be requiring for the 2016 year. We will more than likely be required to submit our request for Hospitality Funds by 3/10/2016.
- David stated that the Events Committee is working on “Foothills Flowers” Festival for 4/16/2016 to be held on Mill Street and streets to be blocked similarly to Music on Mill Event. If anyone is interested in working on this Festival, please email Wanda at 55tbird@charter.net. We are requesting a plan of action for this festival by next meeting (3/1/2016).
- David writing a letter to City of Inman to see if they have an interest in taking up the project of getting the “Early History of Inman” book reprinted as it is decided more of a City of Inman project than that of GIACC.
- David plan to go to Spartanburg Foundation with Bessie to get our \$1500 that is still there so it can be deposited into our GIACC account.
- The Inman Community Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Chamber and coordinated/directed by the Events Committee is scheduled for March 26. More details to follow.

Zylphia Ables, representing the Active Living Committee presented the following:

- April 19th will be the 2nd Annual Opening of the Active Living Season to be held at Mathis Park on Bishop Street. She stated the committee was discussing the idea of a “Spring Stroll” to help incorporate the town’s businesses and invite attendees to also stroll the entire Inman Trail to bring them downtown. Some ideas were to offer area businesses to “rent” vacant storefronts and decorate to promote their businesses and services. They also want to incorporate a possible theme to “save the honey bees” to help educate the public about the danger of

losing honey bees. There is a map of the stroll already done which encompasses a mile. Doug suggested collecting email addresses so pictures can be email of the event to all the individuals that attend. The committee is also looking into other activities for the stroll night such as pickleball, corn hole, frisbee, etc.

- Looking at ways to put this into Smart Apples, etc. Have map of stroll, etc. Zylphia also mentioned other ideas such as Zombie Run, placemats that have the Inman Trail on it for the children at schools, pocket sized maps of area.
- Santa Fun Run sponsored by the City of Inman Police Department and supported by the Chamber and Spartanburg County CERT is scheduled for 12/10/2016 this year.

Teri Newmark – speaking for Hospitality Committee

- Spoke to Pam Day (Correll Insurance Group/Inman) to see if she is interested in chairing this committee and stated she would love to help but is not able to take the chairship at this point in time. We are still looking for a chair.
- No Business Open Houses are scheduled to-date. These are scheduled for the third Tuesday of the month beginning at 5:30.

Tom Plemmons, chair of Economic Development Committee:

- Reported meeting with Ray Rogers, City Councilman and they are working on a spreadsheet of what all is happening, prospects of businesses coming into area, who is contacted, etc. Ray and Tom spoke about the importance of the City of Inman working WITH GIACC. There is a lot of interest in the 292/I-26 area. He stated that there is a 25 acre track that is being looked at by an interested party. Tom presented the idea of meeting quarterly with Jeff Bailey (Inman sewer Dept), city council, mayor, Planning & Zoning board members and GIACC to invite realtors to a BBQ or some kind of outing to help spur interest in the area as well as any potential prospects. GIACC agreed quarterly would be a good thing!
- Tom stated Councilman Ray Rogers had a conversation with Dewell Gwinn and he is willing to rent his buildings out rent free for first year if a multiple lease is signed.
- He stated he will contact Tim Holmes to see if he is going to be willing to rent out any of HIS buildings to help spur more retail in the city.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned (David made motion, Cliff seconded and board approved) with an Executive Session following.

Submitted by
Teri Newmark
(Sitting in for Bessie)