

**GREATER GEORGETOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THE GEORGETOWN TRAIN STATION
Wednesday, June 4
4:00**

In Attendance: Jan Fraipont, Ray Hopkins, Toby Givens, Helen Kruger, Joan Tyndall, Kyle Morgan, Joy Sikora, Bernice Edwards, Norma Elliott, Lit Dryden, Jamie Magee, and Robin Parker.

President Jan Fraipont called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm at the Georgetown Train Station, Georgetown, Delaware.

Blue Grass Festival - Volunteers are needed to work at the Blue Grass Festival. The volunteers will be collecting money for tickets. The dates of the festival are June 19, 20 and 21. The chamber should cover the day of Friday, June 20, 12:00 to 9:00 and Sat. June 21, between 10:00 and 9:00. Jan Fraipont and Joy Sikora volunteered to help.

Shorebirds-Chamber night – June 22 is the Georgetown Chamber night at the Shorebirds game.

Helen Kruger went to the Little League meeting recently to inquire on the number of people attending this event. She had given out > 200 copies of the flyers to be handed out to the players by the coaches. She is very disappointed in the numbers. One of the coaches felt that the \$22 price was too expensive. Thirty five tickets have been sold in addition to seven little leaguers.

Joan questioned the possibility of selling cheaper seats that did not include the buffet.

It was found that a contract for \$6600 had been signed by Norma Elliott and authorized by Jan Fraipont.

Lit Dryden commented that no one is allowed to commit to any amount over \$250 without approval from the Board of Directors. An emergency meeting could be called, if necessary.

A call was made by Norma to Pete Frikker questioning the amount necessary to be sold by the chamber.

Norma was told by Pete that he would come down to \$3300 for an amount that the chamber would have to commit to.

Since there has not been an amount put on deposit for this event, Ray felt that we should ask Pete for the event to be discontinued.

Jan feels that we should all pull together and sell tickets for either the \$22 or the \$8 amount. She mentioned contacting the fire company for assistance.

Helen mentioned that maybe Pete could have another town also come that night to help in sharing the amount of tickets.

It was agreed to have Karen Duffield contact Pete Frikker and get a new contract. New flyers will be printed with the \$8 amount and distributed. The deadline is the 8th of June.

New Executive Director: Jan introduced Karen Duffield as our new executive director.

Karen thanked everyone for giving her the opportunity to help the chamber grow. She also offered to help out anyone in any way and she will be happy to hear any ideas that the board may have for her to carry out.

Minutes: The minutes were sent by email to all board members and copies were made available at the meeting. Toby Givens made a motion to accept the minutes and Lit Dryden seconded. Motion carried.

University of De. Survey – Joan sent a \$6000 payment on the debt owed by the Chamber of \$12,000. Letters were sent to all Financial Institutions in the area and \$100 has been donated from Sussex County Federal Credit Union. She also reported receiving \$1000 from the Georgetown Millsboro Rotary.

Lit Dryden has spoken to Finley Jones and feels that after July 1 we may receive funds from the County.

Joan will now be sending the remaining \$6000 to the University of De. This had been approved at the May meeting. We could still be reimbursed by a grant that has been applied for as well as donations from the banks and the County.

Lit Dryden made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Bernice Edwards seconded. Motion carried

Scholarship Update – Joy Sikora reported that currently the chamber has three applicants for scholarships.

University of Delaware 4 year Liberal Arts College- Joy Sikora attended the board meeting for the Economic Development.

The University of Delaware is looking for property to expand the college.

Beebe Hospital will be meeting with them to put the college in Lewes. This would help with their nursing program.

The town of Milford is also very interested in the college moving to property that the town currently owns.

Battle Robinson had expressed to Joy that there needs to a committee formed with people from the Town Council, and the Chamber to voice the need to keep the University of Delaware in the Georgetown area.

Joy stressed the benefits of the expansion in Georgetown. It would bring more jobs, higher paying jobs, and more diversity to our area.

There was a discussion from several members of the board regarding whether members of the town, county or the state should be notified and asked to be on this committee.

Joy stressed that the committee should included members from the county council.

Jan recommended that a focus committee be formed. Bernice Edwards, Ray Hopkins, Karen Duffield, Joy Sikora from the chamber and Hal Godwin, Eugene Dvornick, and Finley Jones should be invited. This committee would be for the sole purpose of maintaining the 4 year college of the University of De in Georgetown.

Joy Sikora and Karen Duffield will be compiling a narrative.

Membership Update – Helen Kruger reported 463 members currently. We are loosing some and gaining others.

Helen voiced her concern of the \$100 coupon misleading some members. She wanted to stress that the coupon was to be used on the purchase of 3 weeks of advertising.

Fall Festival – Kyle Morgan announced the next meeting of the Fall Festival Committee is being held on Thursday, June 12, at 4:00. This should be a finalization meeting. There will be a set plan for the event discussed. He has already received a \$500 sponsor as well as a donation of trash removal and sponsorship. There will be a lot of volunteers needed. Ashley Hoban is in charge of the food and she has already contacted the Georgetown Fire Dept. Kyle will bring Karen up to date on everything. The date of this event is October 25, 2008.

Personnel Committee Report – Bernice Edwards verified that everyone had received the employee handbook that was emailed. She supplied Karen Duffield with a copy. Bernice wants everyone to read over the employee handbook and the bylaws by the next meeting.

Karen Duffield has signed her contract and it is awaiting Jan's signature.

Chamber Website – Joan reported that the chamber did not receive the grants that they had applied for. These grants were to help assist on the expense of upgrading our website. An amount of \$6800 is necessary to improve some core components. It is necessary to give members more value for their dollar. With these upgrades, Karen would be able to do many things to the website that would help without having to pay for each change. The total upgrade project would cost 14,000. The \$5500 that had been budgeted for the website is being used for the fall festival website.

New First State Community Action Building – Bernice Edwards will be holding a ribbon cutting on June 20 at 11:00. The location is 308 N. Railroad Avenue. There will be refreshments served.

Ray Hopkins motioned to adjourn the meeting
Toby Givens seconded the motion.

Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20

Respectfully submitted
Robin Parker, Secretary