

THE WESTPORT AREA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

October 20, 2015

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Sandra Billieu, Ruth Diekhoff, Greg Watkins, Teresa Watkins, Diana Wildman, Dana Witkemper

MEMBERS & GUESTS: Steve Billieu, John & Faith Coombs, Terri McGrath, Holly Mitchell

The meeting was called to order by Diana Wildman, President.

Dana reported that reservations were made for 16 people and we had 13 attend for the dinner and meeting. (Absent: Bonnie Hahn, Mike and Cynthia Gasper)

Sandi provided the nominations for the upcoming year. Sandi thanked Diana Wildman for her previous term and nominated her for another term as President. Diana accepted the nomination. Teresa Watkins will remain on the board for another term. Terri McGrath will join the board in place of Dave Stults or Lizette Bell. We are waiting on confirmation from Mike on his conversation with Dave.

Diana gave a summary of the past year in her role as President. She felt the Covered Bridge Festival was successful this year and commended Bonnie for doing an excellent job. There were more vendors there this year and the parade had a nice attendance too. The Crier has been a success and continues to improve. Our bank account has grown mostly due to the Crier. The Health Fair turned out nice in light of the rough start with the planning. The final numbers have not been reported but all 400 meals were served and we are estimating 225 flu shots given. One of the biggest changes this year has been the website. It was completely updated to make it more mobile friendly and includes a calendar of events and the Crier. Upcoming events include the Santa Village in November and the Circus on April 30, 2016. Preparations for the village seem to be moving forward. The kids are already getting the coloring sheets and vendors are showing interest with the booth space lowered to \$20. Greg and Terry are getting a head start on the lights. Ruth has the Santa suits but we will need to purchase a new beard.

Sandi presented a photo of the Youth to Yellowstone group that was given to the Association as a thank you for our donation. Diana will keep the framed picture in her office at Mainsource. They also gave us a copy of their financials to show how the donations are used to support the trip. Those documents will be kept with the annual report by the secretary.

Dana suggested that we look at new ways to invite the members of the association to the annual meeting. Attendance is down and most that attend are the same members that attend the monthly meetings. Several suggestions were made which included: decorate the tables and use the centerpieces as door prizes, purchase other door prizes to give away, have entertainment, and call members for personal invites. We also discussed changing the postcards to include "Appreciation Dinner" and "Present nominations for the board members and president" instead of just "nominate".

Our next meeting will be November 17th at 11:30. There will not be a meeting in December. Diana will contact Board members regarding a meeting in December to elect officers.

Sandi moved to adjourn and Teresa seconded. Motion carried.

Signed: Dana Witkemper