

Meeting on Thursday, February 16th, 2017 at 6:30pm

- I. Introduction of Agenda – Meeting called to order by President: Bert Buri – Attendees present: Bert Buri, Lisa Buri, LeeAnn Sulzner, Laura Gentry, Jerry Fox, Paul Cagle, Duane Drake, Cindy Drake, Stephen and Mary Ann Duval. Guests: Katie Whitley, Marie Pope, Stan Johnson, Craig and Joni Smith, and Rose Higgins (Wartrace Stables).

- II. Old Business
 - A. Minutes of the last meeting were read by Secretary: Lisa Buri. Lisa Buri asked for a motion be made to approve the minutes from the January 2017 meeting. Jerry Fox moved for approval and Laura Gentry 2nd the motion. The motion was carried.

 - B. Bert Buri lead the discussion of the Wartrace Visitor Center - Questions and Answers Summary (see: Questions received regarding the Welcome Center Proposal and the proposal).
 1. Paul Cagle suggested that an “Operational Policy Committee” be formed for establishing policy content, volunteer staffing, hours of operation, and interior design and displays.

 2. Laura Gentry wanted confirmation on the rent for \$100.00 and utilities of approximately \$80.00 a month. Jerry Fox (the landlord) affirmed the amounts. Laura also suggested having an open house when ready to open.

 3. Items for discussion: Jerry Fox included the following items would be provided by him for the use of the Wartrace Chamber of Commerce:
 - a. Shelving attached to the walls
 - b. 2 Glass Enclosed Display Cases
 - c. Sofa and a Wing-Backed Chair
 - d. 2 Model Railroad tracks attached to the upper wall areas
 - e. Video monitor and DVD Player to show historic documentaries of the Wartrace and Bedford County area.
 - f. 2 Picnic Tables for visitors to use.
 - g. A concrete slab for a future storage building.

4. Bert Buri went over the building area that will be divided three ways for three different renters. (Wartrace Chamber of Commerce, Matter Associates, and Bedford County Railway Society).
 5. Bert Buri asked Paul Cagle to lead the vote regarding approval for the Wartrace Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center. Paul Cagle made a motion to accept the proposal as stated and discussed. Cindy Drake had concerns that there was not enough in attendance to have a vote for the proposal presented. Laura made a motion to pause the vote until members had time to arrive and new members to be included. Motion was 2nd by LeeAnn Sulzner and the motion was paused until more members could be present.
- C. Cindy Drake gave the Financial Report. (See Financial Statement). Cindy also, stated that Vice-President, Laura Gentry and Treasurer, Cindy Drake have been added to the checking as signers on the W.C. of C. checking account with First Community Bank. Cindy Drake gave the status of the PayPal setup: PayPal setup is complete and has been approved. When completed it will be posted on FaceBook and the website that we accept PayPal as one of our payment options. Jerry Fox made a motion to accept the financial report and Paul Cagle second the motion. The motion carried.
- D. Cindy Drake gave an update on the membership drive. Discussion was brought up about couples paying \$35.00 instead of \$25.00 individual within that couple. Paul Cagle made a motion to revise the charges in which couples in same entity and non-business pay \$35.00, and businesses stay at \$50.00, and individuals stay at \$25.00. Cindy Drake 2nd the motion. A vote was called to all present members and the vote was passed unanimously.
- E. Paul Cagle declared to the President, Bert Buri, that he had determined now there were enough members present to call a vote to the previous motion paused, which was the vote for the new W.C. of C. Visitor Center. Paul Cagle made a motion in principal to accept the proposal as written and discussed, the entity of the building located on 98 East Main Street in Wartrace, Tennessee, and to be occupied by two other entities with a lease agreement to establish a community welcome center. Cindy made a motion to move a vote by a show of hands. LeeAnn Sulzner 2nd the motion. Paul proceeded and asked for a show of hands in favor of the proposal and those opposed to stand. By an unanimous vote of 11 members present the vote was passed.

1. Bert made a motion to form a “Welcome Center Policy Committee.” Bert appointed Laura Gentry to head the committee. She accepted and then in turn asked for volunteers. Committee formed consisted of Laura Gentry, Jerry Fox, Joni Smith, Rose Higgins, Duane Drake, and Mary Ann Duval. Cindy Drake volunteered to write the lease agreement to be effective March 2017.
 2. Jerry Fox gave the status of the Insurance needed for the new occupied rental space. He talked his insurance agent, Arnold Street stated that we can be insured on the “Rock House” insurance policy as long as it is owned by the Wartrace Chamber of Commerce. Laura Gentry said that she would check into if the WC of C has full ownership of the Rock House.
- F. MusicFest – Laura Gentry presented a conversation she had with Public Relations Manager, Pat Wilhoth from Tyson Foods. She asked Pat for a proposal regarding Tyson Foods supplying the food and sponsoring Wartrace MusicFest. Laura said she would like to see the MusicFest have a profit of \$8-\$10 grand a year to use to reinvest for improvements to the town of Wartrace. She also, suggested having a Bar-B-Q cook-off. And asking Diane Murray. Another person she talked to was Troy Black from Memphis, whom also has a connection with Tyson Foods. He will be meeting with the MusicFest committee. If selected, Troy will put a proposal together for the event. He is experienced in running events with Bar-B-Q cook-offs. This item will be brought up at the next MusicFest meeting which will be February 23rd, at 6:30pm.
- G. Feedback on the proposed mural to be placed on the exterior wall of JaeBirds Come and Dine café. Laura Gentry talked to the owner, Nell and asked to have an agreement between her and the Wartrace Chamber of Commerce that all expenses would be paid by the W.C. of C. It was suggested that W.C. of C. would get sponsors to help with the expenses and have their name or business displayed depending on the size of their donation. Bert Buri appointed Jerry Fox and LeeAnn Sulzner to lead the committee. Duane Drake, Steve and MaryAnn Duval volunteered to be on the committee.

III. New Business

A. Events:

1. Community Wide Yard Sale – Due to time, the discussion was postponed for the next meeting. Pending updates.

2. Fall Festival – Coordinator: LeAnn Sulzner. Discussion of advertising, Jerry Fox suggested we get the press releases out soon. The date for the festival is October 21st, 2017. Pending updates.
3. Duane Drake will be submitting a proposal for a new highway sign leading into the Town of Wartrace. He thought the cost would be about \$6.50 a square foot. Pending updates.

IV. President Bert Buri announced, the next meeting will be Thursday, March 9th, 2017 at 6:30pm. Bert Buri asked the motion to end the meeting. Craig Smith made a motion to end the meeting and new member, Stan Johnson 2nd the motion. Motion carried and meeting ended.