

**Meriden/Ozawkie Chamber of Commerce Minutes
May 21, 2015**

Announcements/Project Updates

2015 Golf Tournament – Chamber president Scott Stanley reminded the chamber that the annual golf tournament is set for Friday, June 19th at Lake Perry Country Club. Registration begins at 8:00 AM with a shotgun start set for 8:30. Promotional flyers, golfer registration, and hole sponsorship forms were distributed. Scott mentioned this year's participating beneficiary as the Team Tiger Wrestling program in Meriden.




Chamber Scholarship Recipient – This year's recipient is Boyd Roenne. Boyd is 4.0 student who graduated #1 in his class and plans to major in veterinary science at K-State. Each year the chamber provides (4) annually renewable scholarships of \$500 each, funded by the spring and fall chamber pancake feeds. The chamber expressed their appreciation to Chuck Wilson, Carole Wilson, and Jim McGrath for their excellent work as the scholarship award committee. Chuck reminded the chamber that the committee remained interested in new members. Interested parties are encouraged to let Chuck or one of the other committee members know!

Chamber Board Elections – Scott took the opportunity to remind chamber members that each fall, a nominating committee considers new board nominees. Interested parties are encouraged to contact any board member. This process begins in September for a November election. Each year, 3 board members are elected to a 3-year term.

Jeff Fest – This annual celebration is scheduled for June 27. Scott informed the chamber that the board has committed to a \$500 donation for this county-wide event.

Movies in the Park has been moved to a rain date of Saturday, June 6th. All previously scheduled activities are again planned for. Activities will be held at Frank Lacey Field.

Facebook Page Updates – Heather Williams supplied the following information:

-  The Chamber Facebook page has 160 "likes"! (We added 5 this week!)
-  Our meeting reminder post reached 110 people.
-  The Silent Auction Basket post reached 302 people!

DeDee Skaggs reminded the chamber to contact Heather with any suitable posts. Heather can be reached by email at heatherwilliams@live.com.

Additionally, Scott noted that the board has approved a promotional contest that will award a \$25 chamber gift certificate once a month for the next 6 months, the winner to be drawn from the names of new Facebook chamber page “likes.”

Brittany Chaplin – Jefferson County Director of Economic Development, reported that the Food Council was recognized by action of the county commissioners and now able to apply for local-foods-related grants. A pot-luck celebrating the successful work so far will be held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, June 17th, at the home of Susan Jones, 2866 Detlor Road, Grantville.. Non-committee members are welcome!

Brittany also noted that the revitalization committee was making good progress—and hoping to have a rough draft to present to local taxing entities via “town hall” style meetings by June.

The “local business” committee is working toward a May meeting. DeDee Skaggs and Alexa Surritt are part of this team, but other interested chamber members are welcome to plug in!

Carole Hendrix – For the benefit of any who may not have heard, Scott noted with sorrow the unexpected passing of chamber member Carole Hendrix. Carole is best known to this chamber because of her work with The Friends of Hospice of Jefferson County, but was a significant part of the Jefferson County business and social community in a number of ways.

Special Guest

Kim Herring – was present to represent the F.W. Huston Medical Center. Kim noted that the medical center was more diverse and developed than many local residents know. The hospital retains “critical access” status, meaning it maintains capacity for providing emergency services 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Kim shared with the chamber that F.W. Huston not only offers hospital services, but two medical clinics, rehabilitation therapy services (physical, speech, and occupational—even on an outpatient basis), assisted living facilities, senior living facilities, and mental health services. The hospital has 25 available beds, but is seldom full, meaning private rooms are typical. The hospital serves well as a “swing bed” facility, provided sub-acute rehab in cases of hip replacement, knee surgery, and the like.

For more information on the F.W. Huston Medical Center, visit www.FWHuston.com.

Next Meeting

Chamber – Thursday, June 18th – Noon – Countryside Square Community Room