

## **Odessa Chamber of Commerce**

### **Minutes of Meeting held June 12, 2007**

The June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Odessa Chamber meeting was held at Chief's Bar and Grill. Guest speaker and Odessa High School softball coach Tim Iksic spoke about skinning the infield of the little league field. As the high school softball coach, Tim supports skinning the infield as the team can not use the field as it currently is. He also mentioned that 76 youth teams were in Moses Lake the previous weekend for a tournament and skinning the field would enable Odessa to also hold such activities. Tim would encourage the group who pursues this to go after the youth league which brings in numerous parents and grandparents. The skinning won't cost the school any money and the dirt would be donated. There also wouldn't be any additional costs to the school to maintain the field. The school board position is unknown at this time. The motion was made, seconded, and moved for the Chamber to support skinning the little league field. Anyone who is interested in getting tournament teams to Odessa can call Susan at the Moses Lake Park and Rec center at 766-3603 to get more info.

The minutes from the previous meeting were then read, followed by guest speaker Mark Vlk of Lincoln Paintball. Mark is in the process of getting two professional paintball teams to Deutschesfest. He indicated that these teams have an average of 500 followers per team. The competitions would be held on Saturday, at the football field with the professionals playing first, and then kids age 10 and up could play afterwards. The professionals would give tips on safety and rules before the spectators could play. Mark explained that it would take approximately 4 hours to set up the course on the field, with blow up bunkers and netting. Children ages 10-17 would need a signed permission slip before participating and the teams would be split up depending on experience levels. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to present this information to the Fest committee to look further into.

April Strebeck then gave an update on the Fest Committee. Some community recommendations for fest included the following: an open mic night, cow pie toss, toilet seat horse shoes, and opening and closing ceremonies, to name a few. The committee also developed a mission statement and is looking into offering sewing workshops of the traditional dress to revitalize the German feel of Fest. A GPS treasure hunt might also be a new activity and the motorcycle rodeo is still moving forward. The committee members are also working with Melissa to put together a budget for Fest. April announced a community work day for Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 with a BBQ potluck following.