

Odessa Chamber of Commerce

Minutes of Meeting held October 9, 2007

The October 9th, 2007 Odessa Chamber meeting was held at Chief's Bar and Grill. The flag salute was followed by the minutes from the previous meeting, as well as the treasurer's report.

April Strebeck spoke on behalf of the Fest Committee and reported that the Biergarten went through 135 kegs this year, compared to 119 in 2006 and 134 in 2005. Door sales were also up from prior years at just over \$13,000.00. The merchandise committee said that there were 1/3 of the hats remaining, 1/3 of the dancing chickens, and 25% of the mugs. These remaining items will be available for sale at next year's festival. The Arts and Crafts committee reported that the vendors were pleased with their sales and the food booths had no problem selling out of their products. The motorcycle poker run had more participants than last year and will be giving the Chamber \$220.00. It was decided to rename the Flea Market to a Street Fair and April mentioned that vendors were unhappy with the new location for this year. Terri King will be working with the vendors to find a more favorable location for next year.

There are several committees who are looking for help, these committees are the outdoor stage, advertising, new ideas, and donations. Those interested in these areas are encouraged to get involved and attend the public meeting that will be held on Wednesday, October 17th at 7:15. April also reminded everyone that there are 3 committee members that get voted in to the committee. As of current, those members are Tom Clavel, Teri Schmidt Crosby, and April Strebeck. April will be rotating out of that position this year and a vote will take place on the October 23rd Chamber meeting to replace her.

The meeting then moved to a discussion regarding separating Fest from Chamber. It was suggested that the Chamber give more authority to the Deutschesfest committee so that Chamber could focus more on Economic Development. It was also suggested to add Economic Development to the meeting agenda, as well as a welcoming committee, as there are new businesses opening up in town that will need to be supported.

John Strohmaier gave a quick update for the tree committee. There will be an expense of \$100 per tree if the Chamber has someone come in to put in the trees. They are currently looking at putting in 23 trees and the Town had reported that the water is ready to go for these trees.

The Spaghetti Feed for the Stumpjumpers on October 20th was also briefly discussed. Insurance for the event will be just under \$200.00. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to obtain the insurance and the liquor license for this event.

The meeting was then adjourned.