

May 6, 2024 MEETING MINUTES ASHLAND BETTERMENT COALITION

The May Meeting of Ashland Betterment Coalition was held on Monday, May 6, 2024 at 7 p.m. at Ashland City Hall with Izzy Smith, Debbie Mudd, Lizzie Benke, Jessica Ward, Sharon Adams, Galen Wilhoit, Rachel Beal, Sam Turner and guest Boone County District 1 Commissioner, Justin Aldred in attendance.

Izzy opened the meeting with introductions as our roll call.

Izzy moved forward to April minutes and they were approved.

Izzy and Sharon will get together and form two email list and update all contacts.

Galen gave the Treasurer's Report as follows:

Beginning April Balance:	11,970.91
Deposits:	0.00
Withdrawals:	24.00
Ending Balance:	11,946.91

Of the ending balance, \$3,512.86 remains of the \$5,000 received from the City of Ashland in early 2023 for administration costs, leaving a net of \$8,434.05 from contributions and fundraising. There is currently one check outstanding for \$260.00. Treasurer's Report was motioned and approved. Izzy requested Galen forward the amount designated for the July 20th Community Fireworks event so we can move forward with planning.

Guest Speaker, Justin Aldred, Boone County District 1 Commissioner spoke to the group. Justin opened by saying that the biggest issue he sees in the general population is their trust in government and those serving us in Boone County Missouri. He went on to review the Master Plan which he had a hand out explaining what it is and how it functions. He also enlightened us on all that is going on in County Government now and looking ahead at future plans. Justin is a candidate for this seat again in November against our ABC Member, Sam Turner. I followed with a handwritten thank you note to Justin and he thanked me for that at the Chamber Business Expo on Friday, May 10, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS:

SOBOCO Chamber of Commerce Expo is scheduled for Friday, May 10th and we will be represented with an informational table. There will be a "Best Booth" will seek more information about that and decide if we want to participate. There will be 3 shifts throughout the day 9-11 a.m., 11-1 p.m., 1-3 p.m. Debbie Mudd and Galen Wilhoit will do the 9 a.m.- 11 a.m., Sharon Adams and Julie Haden will do 11a.m.-1 p.m. and Izzy and her friend Connie will do 1 p.m.-3 p.m. There is a "kick off" event the evening before and we can decorate and set up our booth at that time. Debbie suggested we give away something for people to remember our group.

July 4th Parade has been scheduled and we are registered and approved by the City of Ashland. Will come up with a plan of having our banner and a way to display it or carry it in the parade. Sharon has contacted both the high school band director and high school cheer squad coach about participating in the parade and having 4 cheerleaders carry our banner.

Planter Updates:

The planter from the former Boone County Journal location has been moved by Vo-Tech students to the corner of Main Street and Broadway for the Callaway Bank Contract Commitment. There are some questions and issues about its placement so final location is still in the works with City of Ashland approval. Once it finds its permanent location, Horticulture students will be planting and maintaining it.

It has been discussed and decided that we scale down the plan on planter box size to better fit downtown sidewalk areas. With the end of the school year next week, will meet with volunteer woodworkers about constructing the boxes and getting product delivered.

Izzy is asking Matt Uhrig to review our contract since he has offered to help. Matt will fine tune and edit our contract to make it more professional and protects us from liability.

Kentucky Derby Day was a success considering so many other events competing with us. Our numbers were small with 24 in attendance but each participant was very generous with all activities and Jessica will finalize our funds and numbers then forward to Izzy. Mike and Mindy Collins are contributing \$100 and will get that to Jessica this week. Everyone dressed up beautifully and Justin Wobbe won best dressed man.

July 20th will be our community Fireworks Extravaganza partnering with the Southern Boone YMCA and also Ronnie Basinger with his Eagle Flight fireworks company, also, Ronnie now has his certification as a “Pyro Expert.” We will begin planning once Derby Day Party is complete. The main purpose of our group is with fundraising for the event.

OLD BUSINESS:

Izzy reviewed the set-up and itinerary for the Business Expo at the Optimist Building Friday, May 10, 2024. In ANY Event will be ordering flower stems to give away to attendees. Will attach with a ribbon on each stem something about ABC and also “In ANY Event.” Jessica will invoice ABC for the wholesale cost of the flowers and Galen can pay them afterwards. Our booth is in a very visible location in front of the stage so looking forward to lots of visitors to our booth. Debbie has created a game and table décor and information regarding our organization. We are ready and look forward this event.

July 4th Parade is in the planning and we are registered and we are approved and ready to go. Still working on our participation plan and what we will do to be a stand out. Each Board Member needs to bring a large bag of candy to throw in the parade. Please get that to Izzy or Jessica prior to July 4th!! We talked about Ashland Betterment Coalition T-Shirts for our members to wear so we stand out as someone participating. Possibly Sarah McCarter Bullard’s “Free Range Designs” could design and print for us prior to the parade. Can get a price for a good quality Guildan T-Shirts with front and back printing. Jessica and Sharon will check on this and follow up with price for each Board Member or Member to pay. Can do an online vote if necessary to get them printed and ready for the parade.

By-Law work day will happen sometime in the fall after all summer events are complete and before Christmas event planning is in full swing.

Meeting Adjourned at 8 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon L. Adams, Board Secretary

