

APRIL 8, 2024 MEETING MINUTES ASHLAND BETTERMENT COALITION

The April Meeting of Ashland Betterment Coalition was held on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 7 p.m. at Ashland City Hall with Izzy Smith, Debbie Mudd, Lizzie Benke (through ZOOM), Jessica Ward, Tara Blue, Sharon Adams and two guests, Dorise Slinker, Mayor and Rachel Beal.

Izzy reported she recently read through our By-Laws and we can have 9 Board Members and currently have 6.

Izzy moved forward to March minutes were reviewed by Izzy and approved.

Izzy gave the Treasurer's Report as follows:

Beginning March Balance:	\$10,766.13
Deposits:	\$ 1,804.78
Withdrawals:	\$ 600.00
Ending Balance:	\$11,970.91

Of the ending \$11,970.91 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 \$8,458.05 from contributions and fundraising. There is currently one check outstanding for \$260.00. Treasurer's Report was motioned and approved.

Guest Speaker, Justin Aldred, Boone County District 1 Commissioner will be our guest speaker at our May Meeting since we cancelled our April 1, 2024 meeting due to weather.

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 will do the 9 a.m.- 11 a.m., Sharon Adams will do 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and Izzy 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. Give something attendees will remember.

Missouri Mainstreet Webinar on April 3, 2024 was a virtual FREE event and really enjoyable. They had three great speakers and shared suggestions for other communities to get ideas. Ashland is sadly not a community with lots of historic architecture but we could get involved with this by pulling together some ideas they share. Do a Scavenger Hunt activity to pull the community into a fun activity in our downtown business district. We actually have ideas of ways to utilize some of their ideas to emphasize the historic places throughout SOBOCO.

Jessica reviewed supplies and activities for our upcoming **Derby Day Party at Eagle Knoll View 18 scheduled for Saturday, May 5th on Derby Day**. We have a great supply of leftovers from last year to cut down on our needed expenditures for 2024. Can use volunteers to assist with decorating and set-up, working throughout the event because if last year repeats itself, it will be very busy throughout the event. An additional email will be sent out giving a list of supplies we have and what we will need. Please plan to attend this fun event but also plan to volunteer with our group. Raffle and prizes will take place after the race. The race begins late afternoon so activities leading up to the race then more activities after the race. **We Need To Form A Planning Committee!!**

Santa and Reindeer will be held at “In ANY Event” on December 13, 2024. A deposit check has been sent for our deposit on reindeer. After July 20th Fireworks event we need to begin serious planning for the holiday event.

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.

July 20th will be our community Fireworks Extravaganza partnering with the Southern Boone YMCA and also Ronnie Basinger with his fireworks company. We will begin planning once Derby Day Party is complete.

OLD BUSINESS:

No updates on ARPA

Planter Updates:

The planter box that was previously at the Boone County Journal building has been moved to the Vo-Tech building waiting on instructions as to where it is to be placed next. Thinking it will go to the corner of Broadway and Main Street for the contract Callaway Bank has agreed on. Waiting on invoice to pay their annual contract fee. Mrs. Hammett has chose an alternate planter that will fit better on the sidewalk space for businesses on the north side of Broadway and will be much more cost effective to those contracting. Mrs. Hammett is willing to help with our plants to fill the planters at her cost or can look for an alternative source for plants. We need to see these alternative planters before we agree to them. Will also contact about a flag, light and flower bed between the old pharmacy building and Yummy Yo’s to see if they would like to participate in that project.

By-Law Review will be postponed until August when summer activities have been completed. Will plan a work session.

Sent a letter of support to legislator, Travis Wilson on HB 1935 and he responded with thanks for our support. Will be 1-2 years before much more action takes place for this HB.

Meeting Adjourned at 8 PM

