

**Brownsville Chamber
Monthly Meeting
January, 2010**



Meeting called to order by President Mandy Cole at 8:00am in Randy's Mains Street Coffee.

Treasurer's Report by Nell Hanft: Ending Jan. 2010, we have \$19,706.59 in the bank. Pay Pal account is \$250.14.

Guest Speaker: JoAnne McQueary, a Community Service Specialist with the Linn County Sheriff's Office. Ms. McQueary talked to us about the security of Neighborhood Watch and the benefits of a walking patrol here in Brownsville. She gave us several suggestions of how to deter crime. One idea is a telephone tree for communications. We should let her know if we set one up, so she can be involved with the first person on the phone tree list. Ms. McQueary said to feel free to contact the Linn Co. Sheriff because if anything looks suspicious it probably is. Mr. McDowell suggested that we need to be proactive about vandalism and crime.

President Cole introduced the incoming officers and Executive Board. She thanked Sharon McCoy for her hard work as President the last two years.

- Mandy Cole is President
- Dave Furtwangler remains Vice President
- Nell Hanft remains Secretary/Treasurer
- John Morrison and Marty Waite will remain Members at large on the Executive Board
- Sharon McCoy will also be on the board, along with Scott McDowell and Bridget Sheffler

Ms. Cole announced the Chamber is taking a new approach to Marketing. Bridget Sheffler will be taking over from Elizabeth Groves as Marketer. Bridget's email will be the same as Ms. Groves was: events@historicbrownsville.com

Mr. Morrison spoke about how we came to use AVA and Bridget, in hopes of boosting tourism. We will be getting much more press.

Nell Hanft discussed the membership renewals. She has a letter that we sent out last year and we need to make changes and send it along with renewal forms. Ms. Hanft will send the membership letter and application to existing members and potential members, with the goal being to boost the number of members.

Mr. McDowell mentioned the Linn County Coalition and the benefits. Since there are many members re: Albany, Sweet Home, Scio, Tangent, Linn Co. Sheriff, the Chamber can look forward to their support. The City Council supports this coalition. Also, Mr. McDowell talked about the new sign on the corner of City Hall on Park and Main. We have contracted Ms. Jane McQueen to design the sign. The sign will change with each upcoming event as it will be a reader board. Perhaps in the future we can put a bench and cobblestone around the sign for visitors. Along with the Gateway Project expected to be in 2011, we will have signs along Hwy 228.

Linda McCormick reported on the Carriage Me Back event. This year the event will celebrate the Great Depression of the 30's. Actors will be representing our ancestors telling about Shanty Town and Hooverville. Carriage Me Back will be the first weekend in May 2010. Stand by Me will celebrate its 25th anniversary of the movie this year. Ms. McCormick said John Mulder will be organizing a Scooter Rally for

the event and there will be a Pool Tournament at the Brownsville Tavern. Included in the event will be Pie Eating Contest and plans are for the sock hop to be in the street instead of the Rec Center. Ms. McCormick stated that the Rolling Road Show may return this year to show the movie in the park.

Dave Furtwangler reported on the Storytelling Event to be held Feb 26-27, 2010. The event will open on Friday evening at 6PM at the Corner Cafe. This will be an Open Mic session open to adults and children, experienced or beginners; including music by local musicians. Saturday will have day long activities, with Scott McDowell along with a performing arts group performing in the afternoon. Saturday evening's program will be held at the Rec Center. Tickets will be \$10 to include Desserts, and the entertainment will be National Storyteller Alton Chung. Tickets are available on line at the Chambers website historicbrownsville.com.

The meeting was adjourned with the next scheduled meeting to be February 11, 8:00AM at Randy's Main Street Coffee.

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