

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
GONZALES CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

Thursday, February 21, 2019

City Hall ~ 820 St. Joseph

1:00pm

Called to Order and Certification of Quorum

Chairwoman Dawn O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 1:00pm. A quorum was declared present.

Members present: Dawn O'Donnell, Tiffany Hutchinson, Suzanne Sexton, Lisa Brown;

Members absent: Holly Danz, Ken Morrow, Jean Burns, **Staff present:** Clint Hille, Anne Dollery, Barbara Friedrich; **Guests:** None

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the January 24th, 2019 meeting were approved with minor grammatical changes

Reports

2. **Staff Reports**

- A. **JB Wells:** Events include: GVEC appreciation, Livestock show, Sweet B's Wedding, Region 6 Rodeo, Aubrey Sanders Gun Show. Sister's on The Fly have grown vastly from 400 to 600 women and she still has a waiting list. Many of them are renting houses on AirBnB. They are coming Sept 28 and Departing October 6. They will be offering tours for 100 women at a time. They have something going on every night. We may be able to do some main street tours during the day.

B. **Main street:**

Working on concert series. Have bands lined up. Fireworks show booked and ready. Working on sponsorships.

Citywide yard sale April 13 from 8-12.

Buildings for sale/rent in downtown:

Mike Hansen's building 608 St Paul Street: asking \$110,000

David Ludke, Emporium: asking \$500,000

Pawn Shop on 419 St George Street is for sale

Toggry Building is for sale

Richard Green has ½ building on 618 St Joseph Street for sale

The old gas company building on 617 St Joseph Street for rent

Several building that will not sell, will not rent, will not fix up.

Eric McCon's building – several people interested in that one

The old post office – folks interested in purchasing that. The owner will lease it, but very strict stipulations as to whom he will lease to and what they are going to do with it.

David Dement has his property. He definitely won't sell any of them. Some of them are fixed up and some are not, 313 St Lawrence – he would be

willing to rent that out but whomever rented it would have to finish off the inside.

And there are several buildings on St George Street – the old post office.

The building next to the old post office is owned by a Mr. Melina out of San Antonio. He will sell but he wants a tremendous price for that building. Then Sue Ortman has her three buildings where Burchard Abstract is and the two buildings next to it. There is someone interested in renting where the barbershop was.

Café on the Square building...

Mi Lupitas is almost finished with their façade. They still need to finish the top of the building and do some tile work.

Edwards Furniture – we are working on that building. Waiting on design assistance

Suzanne Kittel has shown an interest in updating the façade on the building of hers that is currently being used as a warehouse.

C. Tourism Director:

- Re-Enactment March 1st – group going to Alamo to represent Gonzales
- March 6th – Representative from the Alamo will be in Gonzales to lay a wreath at the museum 10 or 10:30am.
- Pioneer Village Report – still cleaning up and still pretty busy
- Museum Count – 677 for January
- Jail Museum – 303 for January
- Downtown murals – looking for donations from organizations from around town.
 - Susanne – Met with Tim and have approval to do paint on the side of his building. He does not want any bolts – so the “Welcome to Gonzales” will not be going on his building. We have another meeting next week with Michelle Dolezal who heads the art group at the high school. Her group has done murals at the high school and they will do the murals on Tim’s building. Working on timing and cost.
 - Looking to get permission to mount the vinyl one on the side of the new chamber building.
- Tourism assessment completed by the governor’s office. We hope to have that report in the next two to three weeks.
- Texas Independent Trails Association has their rally on Feb 5 and 6 at the Presbyterian Church. Great success. Had about 70 people show up. It was good PR for Gonzales.
- Texas Unity Dinner last night. CVB had a table. We had Jeff Miller from John Cyrier’s office join us. EDC had the adjoining table. They hosted John Cyrier, who is our Rep, who is now our chairman of the house committee on culture, recreation, and tourism.
- Updating AAA events calendar this week.
- Hot Rods and Hatters overall was a successful event despite the rain. No official count yet on the cars. Had great feedback from downtown merchants. A little negative feedback mostly surrounding road closures and parking from merchants.
- Texas Independence Relay – March 29 – 30th Friday night party at JB Wells this year.
- Sisters on the Fly – possible ideas for giveaways. One suggestion was the waste basket. Printed promo wastebaskets have been kind of expensive. And

options would be little white ones from Walmart for a couple of buck and we could put our label on them. – that is one idea. Another couple of ideas include a little fan that you plug into your phone. These are really popular. The cheapest price was about \$3.00. Cool towels around your neck are about \$5.00 apiece. A rubber ring to open jars with our logo. A fly swatter.... \$0.89. A wine glasses if we put our logo on it and possibly coupons to “fill your wine glass”.

- Put together a committee for the gathering and contacting of promo items for the Sisters on the Fly event. Daisy should be on it, Dawn volunteered to be on it, Ann will be on it.
- Lisa Brown and Tiffany will head the “assembling” committee.

Report on upcoming events:

- Gonzales Co Stock Show – Feb 28 – March 1
 - Suzanne provided a clearer schedule of events
- 7th Annual Cowboy Breakfast – March 1
 - \$5 tickets at the door. Doing pancakes this year
- Gun Show – Booked and scheduled
- Norma’s House Bingo, Bags, and Badges Fundraiser – March 22 at the Expo
- Citywide Garage Sale – April 13th – Main street already reported on
- Hospital Gala – April 13th - at the Expo Center
- Extreme Monster Trucks - April 20th at the Expo - a different company then last year 1500 seating capacity
- Come and Taste It Craft Beer and Wine Festival – April 26-27

3. Financial Report:

- Details can be found in the packets

Discussion Items:

- 1. Promotional opportunities for Sisters on the Fly:** already discussed and set up committee. Will send out an email – Possible do raffle for baskets
- 2. Murals:** already discussed
- 3. Alamo Event:** nothing to add

Action Items: None

Call for new agenda items: None

Set date and time of next regular meeting. March 21st at 1pm

Chairwoman asked for motion to adjourn. Suzanne moved that we adjourn. With a second from Tiffany. The meeting adjourned at 1:38pm.