

Greene County Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes October 10, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7: 12pm with 11 people in attendance: Shari Albrecht, Kirby Ballard, Ron Coultas, Sylvia Crawford, Sylvia Kallal, Maxine Longmeyer, Willie Rees, Kelly Smith, Sandra Schmidt, Patty Thaxton, and Jason Walker.

We welcomed Patty Thaxton as a new member.

Old Business

- Sandra Schmidt and Kelly Smith attended the Illinois Coalition for Community Service appreciation Tea for Senator Demuzio and Representative Hannig
- Rick Keim, Willie Rees, Don Roberts, Sandra Schmidt, Gail Schutz and Patty Thaxton attended the 49th District Tourism Roundtable hosted by Senator Demuzio with special guest, Jan Koster, IL Director of Tourism on Wednesday, September 20. Discussions focused on current state tourism efforts, success stories and future plans in our area. The roundtable was followed by a tour of historic sites hosted by Seth McGee from the Illinois Valley Cultural Heritage Assoc. and Sandra Schmidt.
- Ron Coultas, Kelly Smith, and Sandra Schmidt attended the Lockwood Greene Boot Camp September 25 & 26. Prior to this seminar Kelly, Ron and Sandra completed a site selection project and submitted it. This seminar focuses on teaching the participants how to successfully put together a site selection request for information. Our project received an over all grade of "B".
- Sandra Schmidt attended an announcement by Senator Demuzio and Jack Lavin, Director of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity in Carlinville, September 29th at the Lewis & Clark Community College, Macoupin County Education Center. A new E-Center is being created to facilitate the needs of entrepreneurs, inventors, etc. This resource will greatly help new small business in a three county area: Greene, Macoupin and Montgomery Counties and is a cooperative effort between Lewis & Clark College and Milliken University.
- Sylvia Kallal, Rick Keim and Sandra Schmidt attended the 3rd Annual 49th District Economic Development Summit on Saturday, September 30. This summit included sessions on broadband, the Central Illinois Economic Development Authority, ethanol and a U of I district-wide survey in addition to facilitated discussions regarding concerns and future plans for the district.

New business

- Almshouse Grant- received a \$5000.00 Matching grant from Landmarks Illinois to stabilize and weather proof the building. A \$20:00 membership fee is required.
- Work on funding letters to financial institutions continues.
- Bike path, no meeting in September.
- Need volunteers to search file folders for corp. by-laws, articles of incorporation, etc.

- Need to start thinking about presentations to civic groups, municipalities, educators, etc. to encourage them to develop growth plans. Remind them that corridor 67 is coming and development will follow, what kind of development do they want? Invite them to appoint representatives to our group. (discussion)
- Nomination of officers will be taken at November meeting.

Discussion Notes:

An Almshouse memoirs book has been suggested. It will be a composition of stories from those that lived or worked in the house.

A man is interested in putting a trailer on the property and act as guard. The sheriff will be asked to patrol the area more often.

Next Meeting, Tuesday, November 28, 2006, 7:00 pm Rockbridge Township Hall, Greenfield.
(Please note: this is a change from the original minutes)

Sylvia Crawford will bring treats.