August 11, 2011

RTR Minutes

* Lesley O'Connell has resigned from RTR. This leaves space open for other members. Per Cindy, we can have 14 members.
* **ORGANIZATION**:
* We need to have a quorum to vote on the possible new members of Tammy Drummond, Chevis Duncan, and JW Ferguson. Our current members:
	+ Vickie - not present today
	+ Lesly - not present today
	+ David - not present today
	+ Terrie (is leaving us)
	+ Kitty
	+ Jimmy
	+ Haley
	+ Doug
	+ Chevis Duncan, JW Ferguson, and Tammy Drummond were voted in with a unanimous vote among present members.
* The new (appointed without objections) executive board:
	+ Doug - President
	+ Haley - Vice President
	+ Chevis - Secretary
	+ David - Treasurer
* **FINANCIAL**:
* 2 people have requested facade grants for awnings: Legal Grounds and IPDC.
	+ These businesses have sustained damage from recent storms.
	+ RTR pays for half of the facade (up to $750). RTR does NOT pay for the lettering for the facade. This must be taken out of the quote for the awnings.
		- We cut this check after the awning is up and the painting is finished.
	+ We had budgeted $4000 but only spent $3000 for these awning funds last year.
	+ It was a unanimous vote among those attending to give these facades to these businesses.
	+ Jimmy felt that this is important for the town council to know so that they know we help businesses and are not just a "festival organization"
* **TOWN COUNCIL REPORT**
	+ 2 Town Council seats available in November with 5 candidates running for those 2 seats.
	+ 211 bypass construction will not start 2019 or 2020, but will purchase right aways in 2015. The town council has expressed concern about one of the off ramps occuring at the VA clinic.
		- Environmentalist have issues with taking a ditch that handles rain water *sometimes*
	+ Patrick McHenry will be taking over this area that was under Heath Shuler's district. This has been passed in the house, but there has been some legal issues that are being resolved.
	+ McHenry will be in our county this coming Tuesday, August 16th from 10:30-11:30 in the Town Hall. Rutherfordton will host him and the town of Spindale. He is coming to hear our concerns that perhaps he might not have known about.
	+ there are some issues being worked through with the Recreational Trust fund, particularly the golf course. The golf course was not making any money for the town. They have helped themselves quite a bit (board changes, etc.) instead of asking for funds.
* **OLD BUSINESS**
* Form Sign Committee
	+ Historical Committee - Sally Cowan
	+ Town - Karen Andrews. She may defer to Don.
	+ A merchant rep besides board members - ask a volunteer at the merchant mixer.
	+ Lesly Gibbon (marketing executive)
	+ From RTR: Vickie, Kitty, Haley
	+ TDA - ask Michelle to appoint someone.
* Haley will contact Karen Andrews. Doug will contact Sally. Cindy will talk to TDA. All others are RTR board members.
* Haley will come up with a date when all can meet to discuss the sign.
* Talk about a "clean day" to clean up on the back streets.
* **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
	+ We have a new website: www.rutherfordtown.com
		- has a business directory that links to websites and/or facebook sites.
		- Doug is working on getting a PayPal account so that festival merchants can pay us online, we can sell T-shirts, ornaments, etc.
	+ Beautification - Cindy and Doug have been talking to people about doing some things on Central Street. They will report back to us next week.
		- Kitty brought up "run off" from the businesses up the street from her business.
		- Cindy says that they are working on this.
	+ Hilltop Festival
		- Applications are being received
		- Both bands are booked (the main bands are classic rock cover bands).
		- With the 225th anniversary coming up, Cindy says we should have a historical feel to the festival. Next year a three day event. She says we may make this a 2 day event.
			* Cindy promised the Over the Mountain Victory