



## **Potterville Area Chamber of Business**

**Special Meeting Minutes** - Monday, February 24, 2020

Joe's Gizzard City Cafe

**Chamber Officers:** Pennie Lake (President), Mark Aupperlee (Vice President), Loren Smalley (Treasurer), Kathy Dobie (Secretary)

**Mission Statement:** *To build the bridges between area businesses, local government, the schools, and churches, to create a very inviting place to live, educate, and have fun.*

**Meeting Attendance:** There are (13) in attendance today.

**Call to Order:** Mark calls the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

### **Old Business:**

- **Gizzard Fest:** This is a special meeting of the Potterville Area Chamber of Businesses called at the request of the City of Potterville Zoning Administrator, Brandy Hatt, to reopen the discussion on Gizzard Fest 2020, proposing to hold the event on Friday-Saturday, July 10-11.
  - In the February 5, 2020 meeting, the Chamber had approved the motion not to support Gizzard Fest in 2020 based on information provided by Katherine Schmidt, Potterville Straight Up organization.
    - *“Kathy makes a motion recommending that Potterville Straight Up continue planning Gizzard Fest with a goal to bring it back in the summer of 2021 in order that everything can be done to assure a successful event, and that sub committees are formed to work out the details. Jim R. seconds the motion. Motion approved.” ~ from the 02/05/2020 chamber meeting minutes.*
- Since that chamber meeting there have been new developments and new interests from within the community to move ahead with Gizzard Fest. The community needs something positive, to bring people together. Gizzard Fest has the potential to do that.
- Brandy Hatt, speaking on behalf of the City of Potterville, talks about Gizzard Fest being a community event, one that could be hosted by the City and the chamber, but with specific events planned and carried out by, or sponsored by, groups and/or individuals within the community.
  - Being a community event, the City of Potterville would absorb fees for permit structures, which will help save a lot of the cost of the event. The City has already approved and set aside \$5,000.00. Most of that is earmarked for the Friday and Saturday night events, bands, tents, port-a-potties, etc.
  - The chamber is not being asked to support Gizzard Fest financially, however, the chamber might consider sponsoring some part of the event, or hosting something. For example, a chamber information booth. Joe still has some T-Shirts, which the chamber could sell as a fundraiser.
- Joe Bristol, who is supportive of moving forward with the event in 2020, said that with the city and chamber working together, along with some of the other interested parties and groups in Potterville, it is possible to do Gizzard Fest if everyone can take on and be responsible for one aspect of the event. How successful it will be will depend on how many people in the community are willing to join in and help with it. Both Potterville Gives Back and Potterville Straight Up supportive of moving forward with Gizzard Fest.
- Joe said that the planning time is short, with only about 4 months before the event, but it is doable. In speaking about the costs involved to hold the event, Joe said that in the past, Gizzard Fest was never intended to be money maker, but a community event. For example, the cost to vendors might be reduced to attract them on short notice. Perhaps \$50.00-\$75.00 for a booth for the weekend. The goal is not to make money, but get as many involved as possible.

- Also, things could be eliminated for this year. Fireworks, for example, which cost around \$5,000.00. The carnival is being looked into. Other things, such as parade, will depend on the interest from community and whether or not people are willing to help organize and sponsor.
- Brandy proposes that a small committee consisting of a couple people from the city, a couple from the chamber, and a couple for the community to be responsible for overseeing and fundraising for Gizzard Fest, but not “micro-managing” every detail. Brandy will chair that committee.
- Groups or individuals would bring their ideas for hosting specific events to the committee for approval, but the planning and carrying out of these individual events would be the responsibility of the sponsor/host. Any revenue made (or money lost) would belong to the group or individual responsible for hosting the event.
- The City will hold community forums to get input from the public and ideas from community members on what should be included in Gizzard Fest.
- After discussion among those in attendance it is agreed that the chamber will participate in Gizzard Fest 2020.
  - *Kathy makes a motion that the Potterville Area Chamber of Businesses support the City of Potterville in hosting the Gizzard Fest in 2020, on the weekend of Friday and Saturday, July 10 – 11. The specifics of how the chamber will be involved with the event will be decided in the regular chamber meeting scheduled for March 4, 2020 meeting. Pennie seconds the motion. Motion is approved.*
- Brandy will post an announcement about Gizzard Fest tomorrow on the Zoning Potterville Facebook page.
- The first community forum will be held **Monday, March 2, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.**
- **Everyone – spread the news: Gizzard Fest 2020 is on!**
- **Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 4, 2020**, at noon, at Sycamore Creek Church. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Plastics will provide lunch.

**Adjournment:** Mark adjourns the meeting at around 6:15 PM.

~ Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathy Dobie, Chamber of Business Secretary, 02/24/2020