

Viewmont Business Association
Monday, January 12, 2015, 6:00pm

A regular meeting of the Viewmont Business Association was held on Monday, January 12, 2015, 6:00pm, at the Moose Lodge on Hwy. 127. This was the first official meeting of the reorganized Association and approximately 20 people were present.

The first order of business was for the potential members to submit their dues and registration paperwork. These were accepted by Matt Miller, and all who submitted dues were eligible to vote during the meeting.

Proposed Bylaws: The proposed bylaws were presented to the group for review. Donna Price made a motion to accept the bylaws. Matt Miller seconded. The bylaws were approved unanimously.

Financial Update: Theresa Burgess with BB&T informed the group that she was the previous Treasurer of VBA when it was active several years ago. She has been filing VBA annual taxes with Jim Whitworth for several years, and there is a small amount of money that she would like to turn over to VBA.

Officer Elections: All who were present and had paid dues were eligible to vote in the Officer Elections.

Henry Morphis moved, seconded by Bill Pitts, to nominate Bobby Bush as President.

Carolyn Sinclair moved, seconded by Matt Miller, to nominate Henry Morphis as Vice-President.

Bobby Bush moved, seconded by Matt Miller, to nominate Carolyn Sinclair as Secretary.

Janelle Gibbs moved, seconded by Bobby Bush, to nominate Donna Price as Treasurer.

Bobby Bush moved, seconded by Carolyn Sinclair, to nominate Matt Miller as Logistic Committee Chairperson.

Carolyn Sinclair moved, seconded by Janelle Gibbs, to nominate Kym Rink as Marketing Committee Chairperson.

Donna Price moved, seconded by Matt Miller, to nominate Janelle Gibbs and Nichole Dailey Co-Chairpersons of the Events Committee.

Bill Pitts moved, seconded by Bobby Bush, to accept the nominated Slate of Officers. The motion passed unanimously.

Marketing Committee Report: Carolyn Sinclair updated the group on the status of the VBA mailing list. There are still updates needed in order to include all potential members. The list will be forward to Kim Rink, the Marketing Committee Chairperson. Also, Mandy Pitts suggested that a press release be issued regarding the formation of the VBA and the election of officers. Kym Rink will write and release.

Treasurer's Report: Donna Price informed the group that the VBA bank account has a balance of \$4443.81. The Board will review current funds, including remaining monies from the Street Strut, and decide how to disburse funds.

Words from the City: Mandy Pitts, who serves as the City's liaison to the VBA, reported that the City's Business Development Committee is eager to be involved in supporting the VBA. As a group, VBA may be instrumental in helping the City implement the Boost Hickory bond initiative, perhaps in terms of assisting with streetscape design and other aspects of the effort. Additionally, the City has monies available in their Branding Budget to help VBA pay for logo design and other promotional efforts.

Dana Chambers, who serves on the City Business Development Committee, reiterated that the Committee is focusing their efforts on promoting and supporting small to medium businesses.

New Business: Bobby Bush stressed that we need to encourage our business neighbors to become VBA members. As of voting time tonight, there were 16 business members. All were encouraged to bring a friend to the next general meeting.

Also, Bush suggested that we agree to meet on a quarterly basis, and all were in agreement.

There was discussion of building a Facebook page which would be open only to VBA members to assist with communication. This would be in addition to a possible, yet-to-be-developed public Facebook page for VBA. Kim Rink will set up the closed-group page.

Next Meeting: The Board will meet on February 16, 2015 at the Moose Lodge on Hwy. 127. (Due to snow concerns, this meeting was later rescheduled for Monday, March 2, 2015, 6pm, at the Warehouse).

The next general membership meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

NOTE: Kym Rink had to resign as Marketing Coordinator due to family/business matters that occurred in February. The Board of Directors asked Erica Boustead (Fourk) to serve as Marketing Chair, and she agreed.