

Perry Main Street Program – Promotion Committee
Minutes – August 19, 2015

Welcome: Chairman Bill O’Neal called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Roll: Chairman O’Neal; Committee Members Samantha Arrington, Kelly Hillis, Susan Scragg, Darlene McLendon and Joe Brownlee.

Absent: Andrew Presswood, Lindsay Bailey and Sandi Smeltzer

Staff: Catherine Edgemon – Main Street Coordinator, and Trisha McMillan, Recording Clerk.

Visitors: None

Minutes - Review and approve of July 15, 2015 meeting minutes
Committee Member Scragg motioned to approve the minutes as submitted; Committee Member Arrington seconded; all in favor and was unanimously approved.

Old Business

1. Small Business Saturday – Committee member Arrington told members that no plans have been set yet for Small Business Saturday, but there will be a meeting to discuss it on Friday, August 21, at noon at City Hall.
2. Oktoberfest – Committee member Arrington said the Perry Downtown Merchants Association wouldn’t have Oktoberfest this year because they didn’t have enough help or time but hope to have it next year. Ms. Edgemon suggested looking at other towns that have this event to get ideas.

Ms. Arrington shared a poster to be used for Sweets & Treats. Per Ms. Arrington, the Merchants Association had talked about having a TV set up for Sweets & Treats since Halloween is on a Saturday during college football season. Committee member McLendon will publicize this information through the Chamber’s social media and marketing outlets. Ms. Edgemon told members that she has drafted a letter to be signed by the City Manager that will go to the county commissioner’s office asking permission to have the costume contest on the lawn of the old courthouse. Committee member Scragg suggested having Ben and Lora Jones from WMAZ to emcee the contest.

3. Buzzard Drop - Chairman O’Neal advised that the event planning committee had a meeting and worked out some details, including the band and the event footprint. Committee member Scragg will contact area restaurants to see if they are interested in being vendors. She also asked committee member McLendon to set up interviews with the mayor, which she helped with setting up last year. Chairman O’Neal said Mid-State RV Center is a new sponsor and will provide an RV for use for the band’s green room.

New Business

1. Memorial Bench Fund – Per committee member Scragg, a press release needs to be done about the benches because of lack of sales. The benches are \$500. According to Ms. Edgemon there are about a dozen benches left and one person has contacted her about purchasing a bench. One of the metal benches will be moved to in front of A Couple of Jerks Soda Shop.

Chairman Items – None

Other - Committee member McLendon told members the Perry 500 would meet Thursday night, and she will give an update at the next Promotion meeting. She also told members that the Chamber will be hosting its legislation appreciation program on August 27.

Ms. Edgemon asked members for suggestions for business spotlights. The following were decided upon: Cossart Designs – October, Cochran Coachworks – November and Daisy Patch – December.

There will be a meeting on August 24 at the former Jaycee's building at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the Community Improvement District special tax district with businesses on Courtney Hodges Boulevard. This tax will be used for projects within the district and selected by the district, and CIDs have been successful in many other cities.

Farmers' Market – The group noted there have been requests from the community to merge the two farmers' markets. Ms. Edgemon asked Ms. Daley to submit a periodic report with weekly statistics on vendors, attendance, EBT usage, etc.

Adjourn: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.