

## Minutes

In attendance were 17 adults and no children. Jason Ring opened the meeting at 6:00 with prayer. He then turned the meeting over to Paul Combs. Combs started the meeting with moving forward with our projects. First Paul said there were three main targets. The tourists, Homeowners, surrounding area residents. We need to get people to stop in Lansing to shop, not to just pass through to go shopping elsewhere. One way is with improving the appearance and functionality of Lansing. Our goal is to make Lansing a more attractive and visitor friendly town in order to encourage people to spend time and purchase goods and services in the town.

Paul Combs said that the bandstand has been completed, and Everett Adams was looking forward for the sound systems to be installed. Four items need to be addressed.

1) Give an up date on the flowers box and the benches. Many of the flower boxes have been completed and are in place. Frenchy said he lacked about ten boxes being finished. And he would start on the benches.

2) Stripping of the parking spaces have begun. It is to be surveyed on Tuesday, and we can move forward for here.

4) Frenchy commented that more sign are need to advertise the shops. A large one at the beginning of town. In addition, each business makes a sign to place over their door, so the traffic can see the sign. Once you have read the window you have driven by, and are not going to turn around and come back. This is consistent with the Early American Village and incentives for down town property owners to make improvements.

3) Another project was to connect the town with the Old School. Paul Combs said a walkway in not necessary what is need or what is wanted. A trail could tie the two areas together, and it would be more pleasant to walk on. Be thinking of other project that would like to add to the concept of improving the functionally of the town.

Paul said that he would include a water function, but he understands we have a new well in. Moreover, Jason gave an update on the well.

George Rembert said that he had spoken to the painting person, and he might be able to get the paint at a discount, and Jeff Key said at Sherwin-Williams that he might let us have it at a cost or contractor price. Jeff will talk to them and see at what price we can get it.

Do we need to set up a community to handle items three and four? How are we going to get a walk way started? People for these communities will be Beth Rembert, Brenda Reeves, and Mauvine Shepherd.

George Rembert asks about a junk ordinance in the town. Jason Ring said that we fall under the county ordinances, and the county enforces it. There has to be six junk cars and so much square feet of junk in order to have something done about it. Paul suggested that Brenda committee spend some time studying the ordinances of the town that pertain to the beautification of the town.

There need to be done with the cars that are parking in Town all day long. They need to be out of the area, so that parking would be available for shoppers down in town. There is a good space for all day parking across from Jean Key home. Maybe signs could be made to let people know where they can and cannot park. Brenda committee will need to study this also, and come to the next meeting with some good information on this.

Larry Blevins ask if this grant that we have could help the Town in purchasing a large mower for mowing the park and walking trail. Paul Combs said he would not recommend asking for this because this is something that the town should already been taking of.

The next subject is Marketing and Outreach. Combs said he sees this in three pieces. 1) We need to sell Lansing. Develop a brand and outreach message for the Lansing area. In early on someone suggested Lost Corner of a Lost Province. He did not feel that this was the brand we wanted to use. You might want to spend a little bit of money to get a professional group to come in and work with us to get Lansing a good brand and developing a message to put out. Paul feels that this in

important thing to do. After this has been done it is a good time to prepare, 2) marketing materials, including an improved website and brochure for distribution. This brochure can be placed in all welcome sites in the area. Paul's feels that if we hire a professional group they could help us with the brochures also. Coach Combs said he would contact a couple of groups and bring the information back with him. These groups will rely on the group of us for all their information.

3) Identify potential market areas for tourists, retirees, and second-home buyers and develop a five-year plan. This could fall under the brochures. We have talked about this several different times.

Let's talk about the product development. Now we are talking about things people can do. We had talked about Larry Blevins building for the public computer center. There were some issues. The big one was that the timing was not there. The funding is still there. The second round will be the first of the year. The third will be in mid summer. This gives time to get a good proposal together. The community center and the computer center could be all in one building. The Hardware building has been brought up as a place that could be used. On the other end of Town to work with public-private partnership for adaptive reuse and preservation of the Old Lansing School and gymnasium. Work with the owner, and take a part of the downstairs and make it the computer center. Either sale that part of the building or a long-term lease. There need to put in some effort in to discussing this with them. Paul said what little that he had to talk to the owners about the building. The were receptive to the ideal. This would help them and us also. There was a long discussion about the hardware building being the place for the computer center. The location in the middle of town. With some work on it could be brought back to historic status. You would have to tare off the upstairs. How much land would be with it? The survey will show how much land is there. Also the flow plain would also be a problem. Paul Combs said that we need a committee to study location and determine where the computer center would be. When a location is determined then we can proceed form there.

Coach Combs ask if the community center be scratched at the time. Is the computer center scratched also? There are lots of other things that

the building came be used for. Conference room, class rooms, office spaces and jamboree just to name a few. He put down a bed and breakfast he thinks there needs some effort made toward a defining a market for bed and breakfast and the rock school would be an ideal place for it. That may fall into future projects. If we considered the Community center, computer center, appearance of the town, market issues we would have a lot to consider. The medical center came up, and it was said that Judy was still to get money for the matching fund.

Let's take the things we are work on and try to build a plan around it. The next meeting will be September 18, 2009 at 6:00.

