

Foristell Chamber of Commerce

Meeting Minutes – August 6, 2013

The Foristell Chamber of Commerce met at Porlier Outdoor Advertising in Foristell, Missouri on August 6, 2013. The meeting was called to order by President Mark Van Dillen. Reverend Aaron Baker gave the invocation. The following members were present: Mark Van Dillen, Nancy Hance, Charlene Twiehaus, Pam Frazier, Frank Eggering, Sandy Stokes, Chief Johnson, John Pickering, Aaron Baker, Christiana Batjer, Ken Orf, Laura McLane, Shannon Smart, Peg Alexander, Ray Alexander, Jackie Stewart, Chris Gaines, Linda Ellis, Allen Rone, and Kevin Dalton.

Minutes Meeting minutes from June were emailed to all members for approval prior to the meeting. Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report Nancy Hance reported that the account balance as of August 5th was \$3,512.82. Treasurer's report was approved.

City Report Sandy Stokes reported that a development group is currently interested in the McBride and the O'Brien properties.

Wright City School District Chris Gaines reported that teachers are back as of today and students are back on Monday. Enrollment is up though kindergarten will not be up as much as predicted. Practices and camps have been in session. Chris also spent some time explaining more in detail the issues surrounding the Normandy student transfers.

Wentzville School District Pam Frazier reported that Wentzville teachers would be back on Monday with students back on Thursday the 15th. Enrollment will be up 586 students, with 3 transfers from Normandy school district. She noted that Dr. Cain stated that the district would do everything possible to welcome these students. Liberty High School is opening this year and everything has gone smoothly.

Guest Speaker Marisa Ellison, customer relations manager from MoDOT was our guest speaker. She explained the complexities of the Foristell area as it borders two MoDOT districts: the Northeast/Hannibal district; and the St Louis district. Also, the Hwy T access and I-70 interchanges all pose significant challenges for the Foristell area. Marisa stated that Missouri's highway fatalities of 1200-1300 in the past have dropped to below 800 due to the Arrive Alive (savemolives.com) program. This is a coalition for safe transportation in which 17 counties have a partnership to increase safety on Missouri highways. The City of Foristell is a contractual partner in this program and has helped in saving lives. Part of this program also focuses on issues such as clearing accidents quickly from our highways to prevent other further accidents or pile-ups from happening. MoDOT is 7th in the USA in terms of the most miles of highways, and is the 4th lowest in terms of administrative costs. 45% of the funding for our roads comes from federal funds, 22% from fuel taxes, 12% vehicle sales taxes, 12% from vehicular & driver's licenses, and 9% from interest and general revenue. The Missouri fuel tax is currently at .17 cents per gallon for gasoline and has not changed since 1992. Finally, Marisa explained that the traffic issues with the Foristell viaduct, Hwy T access, rail tracks, services roads and trucks will only be able to

be addressed if the state passes the 1% tax bill to generate fund to be set aside for all I-70 projects and related intersections.

Old Business There was no old business to discuss this month.

New Business There was no new business to discuss this month.

Announcements Next meeting will be Tuesday September the 3rd after Labor Day.