

# Meriden/Ozawkie Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## Announcements/Updates

**2016 Trunk or Treat** – Scott reported that 418 students participated in this year’s Trunk or Treat, with an especially good “rush” of kids early on. About 50 different volunteers participated. It appears that attendance may have been down a bit from previous years perhaps because the event was held on Friday, Oct 28th (instead of Halloween proper) and because promotional flyers may not have gotten distributed to at least some Seaman students. Regardless, it was a successful year with excellent turnout. Expenses of \$487.67 for prizes and \$15.43 for food (much of the food was donated), minus \$160 in cash contributions for the event, resulted in a net cost to the chamber of \$343.10, or about .82/student.

Prizes and prize winners included:

<i>Step 2 Car</i>	Tenley Eck	<i>Guitar</i>	Elijah Baker
<i>Desk/Chair</i>	Dalton Homes	<i>Game table</i>	Malachi Carper
<i>Scooter/suitcase</i>	Raelyn Mollenkamp	<i>Building Blocks</i>	Joslynn Sutton
<i>“Minnie”</i>	Kellie Poley	<i>“Mickey”</i>	Avery McCune
	Jeff Perry		Nick Herrman
<i>Balance Bike</i>	Payton Norris	<i>Boy’s 12”</i>	Caydence Dehncke
<i>Girls 14” Minnie</i>	J.D. Dunham	<i>Boy’s 18” Blue</i>	Creighton Lloyd
<i>Girl’s 20” Pink</i>	Logan Lafountain		

**Community Welcome Signs** – Steve Buss and his middle school students have expressed a willingness to work with the chamber on developing more attractive landscaping around the community welcome signs. They will be submitting three proposals for the chamber board to consider. The chamber expressed its gratitude for Mr. Buss’s willingness!

**Chamber “After Hours”** – The annual Chamber “After Hours” has been shifted to January 19, 2017. Any chamber member with interest in hosting this event should speak with Chamber president Scott Stanley or any chamber board member soon. The chamber board will determine a location at their December meeting.

**Christmas Lights Contest** – The Chamber, in cooperation with Meriden Pride, will sponsor the Christmas Lights Contest again this year. The Chamber will award a \$50 Chamber gift certificate to winners in three categories (within the city of Ozawkie, within the rural areas outside of Ozawkie and Meriden, and to a business within the city of Meriden) and Meriden Pride will sponsor and award a gift certificate to a residence within Meriden. For more information, contact DeDee Skaggs or Jim McGrath.

## Special Guest

**Brittany Chaplin, Director of Economic Development for Jefferson County** was present to highlight continued development within the various committees she is leading and to “pick the brains” of chamber members with regard, particularly, to various business development workshops that Economic Development is considering hosting.

Among other exercises, Brittany distributed a brief survey allowing those present to offer input between various topics for small-business workshops, discussed potential meeting times and meeting lengths, and brainstormed about ways to assure that any workshops included ways to implement the materials covered. Chamber members produced several good ideas Brittany could utilize.

## Next Meeting

**The Chamber meets again** at noon at the Gambino’s “community room” on Thurs, Dec 15<sup>th</sup>.