Regular Board Meeting Minutes
OTC Board Room
12:00

January 26,2026 this meeting was held on February 2, 2026 due to inclement weather
12:00 | OTC Board Room

Call to Order: 12:02 PM by Afton Griffin, Interim President

Attendees: Kester Dingus, Wanda Crawford, Terri McClung, Lisa Sponaugle, Toni O'Brien, Patsy Snead, Gary Whitmer, Lisa Akers, Josh Taylor, Afton Griffin and Tyler Sizemore

Absent: Susan Crowder, Jonathan Calloway, Jaime Hale, Lisa Worley and Christine Hodges

Guests: None

Consent Agenda Items: Motion to approve all items on the consent agenda as presented by Lisa Sponaugle. Second by: Lisa Akers All in favor Yes

Executive Director: Kester attended a meeting with Dizzy Garten and Lisa W regarding OTC working the concessions at the Lumberjack games. The opening date is May 30th. Home games start at 6:30 week days and 4PM on Sunday. Opening game Dizzy will do a $2,500 giveaway and want to offer cheap hot dogs and drinks and will feature free fireworks.
Each game there will be a sign on the field with a hole and if a home run is hit and the ball goes through the hole there will be a $10K prize, this will be sponsored by an outside company.
Each game will be featured by a theme, for example one game will be Field of Dreams, and $500. Will be donated for hot dogs and drinks.OTC has the opportunity to handle all the concessions for 18 home games., not including playoffs. 4 people would need to work each game. Kiwanis and the Credit Union have volunteers to help. Dizzy will get the ABC license and at the end of the season and expenses OTC will receive all the profit. Food to be purchased from Performance Food Group at wholesale and OTC gets 100% of the profits.
Motion made by: Gary Whitmer to establish an account with Performance Food Group and a commitment by the OTC Board to work concessions**, Second by: Terri McClung. All in favor Yes**

Grant update from ED: Late last summer 5 businesses applied for an American Express Backing Small Business grant, Barnwood Blessings was awarded a $10K grant to use for inventory and display. Another grant has just been closed by American Express Backing Small Business in the amount of 20K. Bruce Gardner, Alleghany Insurance Services ,LLC has applied for this Grant.

Summer Intern Update from ED: Keely Lowman with the Alleghany Foundation has notified us that they will sponsor 5 interns this summer. These interns will work 36 hours per week for 10 to 12 weeks and will be funded by the foundation. OTC has been approved for this program and applications are due by March 14th.

Passing of Susan Crowder's mother: OTC sends their condolences to Susan Crowder in the passing of her Mother. The Board discussed sending flowers from OTC with a budget request of $100. **Motion made by Lisa A .Second Patsy S. All in favor Yes**

Restaurant Week Update: OTC in collaboration with the Chamber, City of Covington, Town of Clifton Forge and the Town of Iron Gate and Alleghany County are Planning a Restaurant Week for Feb. 20 to March 1st, 2026. To date we have 14 signed up to participate.

Partner/Ex-Offico Updates

- **Small Business Coordinator**- Terri provided copies of the MSA Handbook for each Board Member along with a copy of the Annual Report. She also advised that the new MSA sign had been delivered and we need to decide on a location and schedule a ribbon cutting. It was suggested to install the sign at Cucci`s or on Durant Road near the Interstate exit. No action taken at this time
- **Chamber of Commerce:**
    - 2-19 5:30PM to 7PM Business After Hours at Make Room
    - 3-19 5:30 PM the Chambers Annual Dinner at the Omni Homestead
    - 4 - 13&14 Virginia Tourism, to date 27 rooms have been rented meals each night will be at local restaurants
    - Josh will get more information on the magazine Virginia Living and share at our next meeting.
- **Parks and Rec** No Update
- **AHEDC** No Update
- **Mayor–** No Update
- **4-H Extension/Farmers Market**- the Board will meet in February

Items to be discussed outside the Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Lisa Akers to provide lunch for the board members with a budget set at $150/ meeting. **Second by Patsy Snead. All in favor Yes**

Next OTC meeting February 23, 12 Noon - OTC Board Room,

Motion to adjourn at 1:17 PM made by : Lisa Akers Second by: Afton Griffin

All in Favor? yes