

Westside Association Meeting Minutes-December 6-2012

Meeting called to order by President Connie Drexler @12:00

Approval November minutes (Gary/Ron) passed

Treasurer's Report

- current balance is \$4553.76
- payments in Nov -
 - key chains for the ribbon cutting
 - annual PO Box rent
 - speaker lunches
 - Celebration of Lights annual donation
- deposits-none
- No outstanding pledges

Chamber Report:

- revolving loan to Tamara's for move to Oregon Street (old Schoenberger's Bakery)
- Rolled out the new collaborative marketing program on Nov 29
- Big Rig Chrome Shop - south of Bergstrom on Washburn
- Kwik Trip on Green Valley Rd continues construction
- UWO- working on Welcome/Alumni Center
- Wilhm Dental- under construction on 9th/Westhaven
- October Unemployment Rate at 5.7%
- Business Expo- January 31-2013- booths still available
- Business after hours- Dec 13 at The Waters
- Oshkosh Convention and Visitors Bureau- moving into space in the 100 block of Main

Membership:

- Theresa Brockman from Evergreen Retirement has joined
- currently at 64 members

New Business:

- approached by Irishfest Committee about a St Patrick's Day Parade
 - Motion made and 2nd- for board to get more information and make a decision about the level of support
- Westside was approached by Mary Olsen to participate in a survey about the visioning project for OASD
 - need 15-20 members
 - Julie Belville will be contacting members about participating

Guest Speaker: Dan Shetter- Manager of the Downtown Hotel- Project Updates

- Oshkosh Premier Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center- current working name
- Background:
 - Pioneer and Hilton combined totaled 371 rooms downtown
 - 2008- total rooms were 1150
 - 2012- total rooms were 750
 - Convention center renovated in 2009- no viable anchor hotel
 - UWO considered development of hotel in conjunction with their Welcome/Alumni Center
 - John Casper helped connect key players (UWO Foundation, investor group)
 - Eileen Connolly-Kessler- from the Oshkosh Community Foundation facilitated the partnership
 - Public/Private partnership of
 - supporters/Investors of the project
 - Oshkosh Area Community Foundation
 - Oshkosh Investors LLC
 - City of Oshkosh
- New hotel will have 176 rooms
- 7.5 Million in bond financing by the Investors
 - renovations will total \$12 million
 - total project costs nearing \$16 million
- Partnerships
 - Continental -Girbau-
 - use laundry facility as a showcase for their products- able to bring clients into a operating laundry
 - hotel received special pricing and state of the art equipment

- UWO/UWO Foundation
 - directly enhances job growth
 - produces revenue for the foundation
- expect to generate 200 new jobs (200 hotel employees)
- has already produced 200 construction jobs during construction process
- Developed Premier Waterfront Catering
 - preferred caterer at EAA
 - looking to partner with the Grand Opera House, Leach and The Waters
- Opening April 26-2013
 - June-2013- Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel
 - Restaurant- Ground Round at River's Edge- casual dining, will have outdoor patio

Meeting adjourned at 1:00PM