

## **Downtown Merchants of Rosenberg**

Meeting Minutes April 8, 2010

**Members Present:** Jeff Messer, President; Linda Rulau, Treasurer; Linda Dobie; Mike Mercado; Ann Miller; Tracy Satterwhite, Bob Vogelsang, Marcia Vogelsang; Noel Valdez.

Jeff Messer welcomed Tracy Satterwhite, a new member.

### **Old Business:**

The Chocolate Walk event planned for Sunday **May 23, 2010** was discussed. All merchants participating will make or provide their own wrapped chocolates to be presented to women shoppers on that day. Janice will provide the shopping bags. Merchants were asked to prepare 100 chocolates.

City approved signage for the Historical District was discussed. Noel shared that after further study, the sign permit guidelines passed by City Council in 2009 are reasonable and the cost is reasonable. She recommended that DMOR not pursue a request to change the ordinance.

The Railroad Festival and Hobo Days event is scheduled for **April 24, 2010**. It was moved and seconded that DMOR purchase a 3x6 banner for the fence at a cost of \$500. Motion carried. This banner can then be borrowed from the museum for other DMOR activities as needed. Hobos will be offering to do work for merchants that day in exchange for food. Linda needs to know which businesses want to participate.

The FOCUS newcomers guide ad is being finalized by Linda. She is currently checking every name and # for accuracy.

### **New Business:**

Bob shared that he wants the Rosenberg City Council to officially recognize the Rosenberg Historical District and request help from the city to increase tourism. Linda stated that an historical area was designated by TIRZ and that this area could be designated as the Historical District regardless of the existence of TIRZ. Though TIRZ was active for 10 years and that time has expired, it is not known whether TIRZ was extended for another 10 years.. Bob will check with Bill Dostal and get an update.

Bob shared plans for the 100<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary celebration of the Vogelsang Buildings on **June 5, 2010**. He passed around the picture of opening day and

shared the history of the Buster Brown performance on that day. This will be re-enacted by CAST on June 5<sup>th</sup> and merchants are encouraged to gather in front of the building at 9:00 am for a picture. Wearing 1910 dress was discussed and many agreed it would be fun and interesting for customers that day. More details will be shared at the May meeting.

The group discussed the increase in requests for donations and numbers of solicitors. It was agreed each shop/business will make their individual decision about how to handle this. No guidelines will be recommended by DMOR.

Respectfully submitted,

**Marcia Vogelsang**

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(for Carolyn Pincheck, Secretary)