

Harper Community Chamber of Commerce

In the summer of 2012 a small group decided to get a chamber of commerce going in Harper. There had been one but it had dissolved. We organized, filed for a 501-c and got approved. With seed money from the very first Harper Business Expo in April of 2011 we went to work.

Directors at the time were Scott Hoffman, Joan Lennon, Megan Walber, Kim Behrends, Josh Bratcher, Florence Brown, and Jeanette Bode. Megan Walber later resigned and Terry Wolle was added. These 7 still serve to day but meetings are open to all.

We have a website harpertexaschamber.com. All members are listed on the website with a link to their web pages when available. Calls are routed to Jeanette Bode and she sends the references the way they need to go. The website is currently going thru a redo.

We had a very successful mixer in March hosted by Headwaters Saloon. Various snacks were brought and much food was donated by Headwaters. A great time was had by all. Before the mixer we had around 50 members and 12 new members were added after the mixer.

We sponsored a poster contest thru the art class at school under the supervision of Mrs. Raydean Borchers. These posters were to advertise Harper Chamber and were put up in town in businesses for all to see. Cash prizes were awarded to winners, 1st-Daspyn Esquell, 2nd-Kenkall Baethge, and 3rd Bailey Matthews.

We took a full page ad in the school annual and listed all our members. We took a half page ad in the Fredericksburg Standard congratulating our Seniors and again listed all our members.

We were a sponsor of the 125th celebration in Harper in June. We were also a sponsor of the Harper Frontier Days Rodeo. We held a silent auction for benefit of the park at the Frontier Days celebration.

Behrends Feed hosted a mixer in the park Oct . 3 It will be hosted by We will also be sponsoring the Toys for Tots program for Harper and assisting the school with their Angel Tree Program this Christmas season.

Some plans are also being made to have a Dutch Oven Cookoff and trades day in June 2014.

Since Harper has no newspaper anymore the Fredericksburg Standard has been working well with Harper to print any news they get. Send directly to the Fredericksburg Standard or send to Jeanette Bode and it will get printed under a section called Harper News.

We do a direct mailer to all addresses in the 78631 zip code. This includes community news and events as well as school news. Church news is included as well. We will try to do a mailer about 6 times a year.

On these news items all organizations or individuals having news items will need to submit it as we also have no reporters. If someone wants to volunteer that would be great also. We have a Harper Community Facebook page and will post any community events including obituaries.

Along with the Harper Community Park, The Harper Historical Society, the Harper Library and the Harper Volunteer Fire Dept. and the Harper Independent School District we are sponsoring a "Meet and Greet." Bring what you want to drink and your glass to drink out of and meet Harper. This will be February 21, 6 p.m. Harper Community Park.

The Harper Community Park has obtained their 501-c and will be making plans for the community building. The Chamber will be assisting them on those plans. The chamber provided refreshments for the annual meeting to elect park board directors.

We are a small chamber but a busy one and our whole purpose is to promote Harper and all in Harper.

Although we are called a chamber of commerce the organization probably should have been called Harper Community Organization. Individuals interested in Harper as well as businesses can be a part of this chamber and all support Harper.

2015 activities

Full page ad in HISD yearbook-first advertising page and listing all members.

Congratulations ad ¼ page in Fredericksburg Standard for well wishes to Seniors again listing all members.

Direct mailers 4 times promoting Harper Community activities throughout the year. These mailers went to all mailboxes with a 78631 area code.

In addition we sponsored:

Highland Games-\$150.00

Frontier Days-\$850.00

Boy scouts Pinewood Derby-\$50.00

Headwaters for Heroes-\$500.00

HISD Shattered Dreams program

Harper Street Lights-\$65.00 (big street lights in Harper)

Project Graduation-\$100.00

Harper Park Christmas Lights-\$100.00

Toys for Tots-\$100.00

HISD Angel Tree - \$100.00

