

**SYLVESTER-WORTH COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
SPECIAL CALLED GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
1:00 PM February 10, 2020
SYLVESTER-WORTH COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/EDA**

The following committee members were in attendance – Becky Geer – Chair, Jean Brooks, Chris Shipp, Earnest Carter, Fred Dowell, Shelly McPhaul, Fred Dent, Melvin Harris, and Karen Rackley

CALL TO ORDER – PRAYER AND PLEDGE - The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. Prayer led by Jean Brooks. Pledge led by Becky Geer.

INTRODUCTIONS -The committee members introduced themselves.

NEWSLETTER - Karen Rackley encouraged committee members to read the weekly newsletter which will have monthly Legislative updates from the Georgia Chamber.

Voter Election Websites:

worthcountyelections.com – This website provides local residents with state and local voter information.

Secretary of State Website:

sos.gov - Following this link will take you to the My Voter Page which will give detailed election information such as where to locate voter precincts, candidate information, request absentee ballot, provide sample ballots, and allow persons to register to vote.

GPTV -The Lawmakers - In addition to receiving Georgia Chamber updates, the television show, The Lawmakers cover key Georgia issues. The show airs at 7:00 pm Monday through Thursday and currently highlighting Georgia's budget.

OLD BUSINESS:

Becky Geer tabled all old business to start discussion for a candidate meet and greet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sylvester-Worth County Roundtable Think Tank - Chris Shipp - After assessing voter needs of Worth County, Mr. Shipp and several others have formed a committee to increase voter turnout. After low voter turnout in last election, their goal is to increase voter participation by 20%. This organization will also help educate the community on the importance of being counted in the upcoming 2020 Census.

Upcoming Election Dates:

February 24th – Early Voting

March 2nd - Early Voting

March 3rd - Senate Race

March 14th - Saturday Voting

March 24th - City of Sylvester Mayor's Race and Ward 3 Council Seat

March 24th - Presidential Primary
May 19th - County wide Elections & House Seat Elections

Meet and Greet – Government Committee will co-host Meet & Greet with Roundtable Think Tank

Date - February 22, 2020
Time - 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Location - Margaret Jones Library (Sumner Room)
Moderators - Becky Geer and Chris Shipp

Format - Candidates will have 8 - 10 minutes to present their platform to the audience. After introductions the audience will have an opportunity to mix and mingle and ask the candidates questions individually. Light refreshments served.

Invite Candidates- Committee members contacted candidates during the committee meeting to check their availability to attend the meet and greet. The following candidates confirmed their attendance:

Senate Runoff Candidates

Jim Quinn - Lee County
Carden Summers - Crisp County

Sylvester Mayoral Candidates

Johnny Blake
Charles Jones

Sylvester Ward 3 Council Seat

Mark Giddens

Logistics - The Government committee will meet at 12:00 noon on February 22nd to set up for meet and greet.

WCMS Government Tour - May 1, 2020

ACTION ITEMS:

Email invite to candidates
Post on Facebook
Email Government committee to remind about set up on February 22nd at 12:00 noon and share Facebook post
Advertise in newspaper and Chamber newsletter
Announce in Churches
Order Peanuts
Light refreshments:
Buy \$30-40 worth of candy, peppermint and chocolate.
Get drinks from Coca Cola
Get Decorations from Annex

Adjourn – With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting date for the Government Committee is scheduled for April 13, 2020 at 1:00 PM.

Minutes Submitted by:

Jaki S. Johnson