



The Optimist Club of Treynor, Treynor, IA
Iowa District, Zone 2 Club Number 40-109
Iowa District Governor: Marge Hopkins
Lt Governor: Don Dilts

NEWSLETTER

Treynor Optimist Club President:
Dale Willenborg



Oct. 12, 2024

Vol. 40, No. 39

Travis Castle at "The T"



The Optimists met today at the Charles E. Lakin Foundation Family Pavilion at "The T". Travis Castle, President of Vision Treynor Group (VTG), shared the history of VTG, a 501©3. He also introduced two other board members who were present, Norm Collins and Doug Wehring. Scott Reelfs is a fourth member of the board. VTG was formed in 2010.

A survey was first sent to 1000 Treynor area residents and 443 responded with four main needs being identified: a swimming pool, little league fields, walking trails, and a fitness center. 63 acres of land became available in 2010 to buy. TS Bank gave a grant to help buy the land. The community raised \$250,000.

In 2014 the fitness center – Treynor Fit was started. It is owned and operated by VTG, and cash flows. It has 200 members and is managed by Steve and Ashley Burke. One Optimist stated the senior citizen rate is a very reasonable \$28/month.

In 2017 a loan was leveraged to grade the middle third of the plan for "The T". Iowa West Foundation granted \$175,000 to help with the fields that now exist. In 2020 the Charles E. Lakin Foundation granted \$336,000 for infrastructure and the Pavilion that now exists. Today all infrastructure exists– electric, water, fiberoptics for security cameras and WIFI.

To date \$2M in total has been raised through grants, gifts, and donations. From the beginning lots of pieces have been put

together – from foundations to people making donations at Treynor Days. In addition, many hours have been put in by volunteers. Travis spoke about building relationships with foundations to determine what projects they were wanting to grant to.

Travis discussed the most recent announcement of the Charles E. Lakin Foundation's mission to improve housing in SW Iowa and daycare. Research had shown that no community in SWI has grown since 2010 except Treynor. Population is being lost to eastern Nebraska. It is believed that having more housing opportunities in SWI will improve the economy.

The Lakin Foundation has established a new \$165M fund that is earmarked for housing in SWI. Four towns have been initially selected to receive funds– Atlantic, Treynor, Stanton, and Malvern. \$3.4M has been committed to VTG as the nonprofit designee and they will work with the City of Treynor to create additional housing opportunities. Travis stressed that it is not a grant or free money. First, the housing project must be developed and when it is approved, then the Foundation will finance it. VTG has space for lots to be developed on the west and east side of "The T". VTG will borrow the money, use TIF, then the earnings will be put back into the fund along with interest when the housing lots are sold. VTG will then receive 5 % of the fund to be used for further development of community projects, such as amenities for the fields that are being built at The T. Travis stated that it is like an endowment and the corpus (principal) stays in place.

The original survey desire of a swimming pool was discussed, but Travis said this would require a \$5-8M grant for it to happen.

The group enjoyed taking a tour of the new Lakin Foundation Family Pavilion with Travis.

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM

To Be Announced

FAMOUS QUOTE

“Moving on is easy. It’s staying moved on that’s trickier.” Katerina Klemer

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg called the meeting to order at The T. Fourteen members were present.

Guests today: Norm Collins, Travis Castle, Doug Wehring

Jokes: Keith Denton, Steve Chambers

50/50: Bill Vorthmann

Attendance Award: Jeff Jorgensen who wasn't present.

Football Contest: John Klein

Birthdays/Anniversaries: None

Bragging Rights: (Dollars are contributed to benefit local youth programs.)

- Keith Denton stated his granddaughter Lily Denton is having good luck with cross country.
- Dennis White bragged on Treynor beating Shenandoah in football 36-6 and having a good season.
- Judy Gutttau stated grandson Brock Fox is playing football at Augustana. He's playing well in spite of some injuries.
- Gary Gutttau stated he had taken two loads of pumpkins to the elementary school for the children and there were lots of smiles.

Business:

- St. Paul Youth are sorting cans today at 9 AM. Bill Vorthmann will haul.
- Dale Willenborg reported the possibility of having the Droppitt Trailer placed on the Community Building parking lot was rejected by the town council.
- \$245 for Shop for the Sherriff was collected.

Community Events this week (In Treynor):

- All of October – Community Cereal Drive (cereal and pop tarts), sponsor is Treynor Dance Team to

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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575

benefit Treynor Food Pantry. Drop off at any school office.

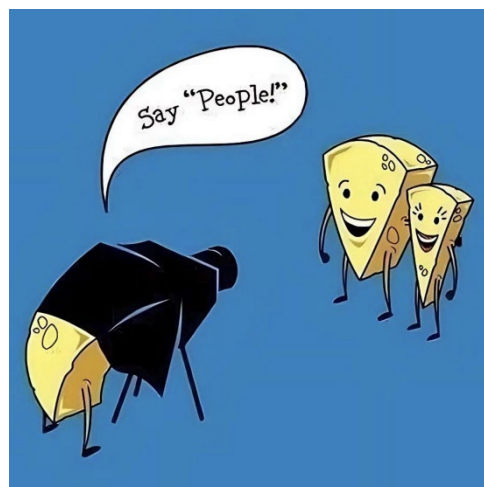
- Wed., Oct. 16 – First day for Voting
- Thurs. Oct. 17- Varsity VB at IWCC and beginning of tournaments.
- Fri. Oct. 18 – Middle School Halloween Dance

Other Events Mentioned (Not in Treynor):

- Fri., Oct. 18 – Varsity FB at Mo Valley
- Sat., Oct. 19 – State Marching Band Contest

There being no further business, the pledge was stated and the meeting adjourned.

HUMOR



CALENDAR

Events:

Oct. 19 Optimist Meeting at the Treynor Community Building - 8 AM.-9 AM

Birthdays:

Oct. 17 Marsha Underwood
Oct. 29 Bill Vorthmann

Anniversaries:

Oct. 13 Dale & Dianne Willenborg
Oct. 17 Dennis & Kay White

Programs:

Oct Gary Gutttau
Nov Jordan Campbell (first three)
Jerry Hempel (last two)
Dec Mick and Judy Gutttau

Speakers

Oct. 19 TBA
Oct. 26 TBA