

#### **Chad Newell**

### President, Area Development Partnership

Our guest today has been actively involved in Economic Development circles for eighteen years and currently serves as president of the Area Development Partnership (ADP), the regional Chamber of Commerce, Community Development, and Economic Development organization for Greater Hattiesburg. Chad has been with the Area Development Partnership for two years.

the Metropolitan Development Board (MDB) in Birmingham, the Economic Development Director for the City of Opelika, and the **Business Development Director with the** Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce. Chad has also worked for the Center for Policy Research and Planning in Jackson, Mississippi and with other Economic **Development agencies in Southeast** 

A native of Meridian, Mississippi, Chad graduated from Mississippi State University in 1993 with a Bachelor's degree in Economics and earned a Master's degree in Economic Development in 1996 from the University of Southern Mississippi. He and his wife Jennifer have been married for 18 years and have two sons, Garrett (14) and Brooks (7), and one daughter, Jordan (11).

Mississippi during graduate school.







#### **MINUTES: May 6, 2014**

Scott Hummel presided over the meeting. Thanks to Lynn Walton who gave the invocation and Robert Cummins who led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks to Chris Price and Curtis Smith for serving as our greeters today. Brian Moore noted that we have no visiting Rotarians and no visitors today.

Scott reminded members that The Group Exchange students will arrive in our area on Wednesday, May 14 and depart on Saturday, May 17. Hosts are needed for the visitors throughout the visit. If you can serve in this capacity please see Mike Ratliff or Scott.

Aaron Ladner thanked members who have participate in the Souls for Orphans campaign. The donated shoes and socks will be delivered during the District Conference this weekend. If you haven't purchased shoes and socks for the campaign, you can write a check that will be delivered and used for this purpose.

Jonathan Shemper reported that the Bike-a-Thon is scheduled for November 1. The committee met with representatives of the Extra Table and they are excited about the joint venture. The planning committee will meet next Tuesday at 11:15 a.m. just prior to the weekly membership meeting.

Valencia Williamson then introduced today's guest speaker, Andre' Heath. Andre' serves on the ADP Leadership PineBelt Steering Committee and is a representative of Toastmasters.

Heath spoke to members about Leadership, Empowerment and Civic Engagement.

Leadership is the ability to get people to want to follow you. Unless you can motivate others to follow you, Heath says you're just going for a walk. Leaders have the ability to cast vision so that others can see and understand it. According to Andre' leadership is necessary, especially in the world in which we live in and especially in the home.

Empowerment is also necessary in today's society according to Andre'. If you want to empower others you must have a passion for other people. And, if you're going to lead people then you must help people get what they want.

Leadership and Empowerment lead to Civic Engagement according to Andre'. He says there are plenty of problem makers in today's society. What is needed are problem solvers. In order to be a problem solver you need to focus on being a servant.

Leadership, Empowerment and Civic Engagement will help us cause a positive change in our world.

Anyone interested in visiting or participating in Toastmasters is invited to join the group. The meet every Tuesday morning at 7 a.m. at Wesley.

Minutes courtesy of: Lamar Evans, Executive Secretary



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-Allen Anderson





### **Rotary International Conference**

June 1-4 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia





May 27
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