

## **Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes**

**October 7, 2009**

**Cut Bank Development Center – Noon**

**Directors in Attendance:** Mike Bruch, James Laidlaw, Stephanie Browning, LeAnne Kavanagh, Gloria Taylor, Virginia Harman, Scott Laird, Jeff Billman, Robert Carette, Dawn Barrett, Tippy Burtch, Josh Larson

**Executive Director:** Amy Overstreet

**Directors Absent:**

**Directors Unexcused:**

**Guests Attending:** Tracy Puryear, Tom Shock, Jerilee Wilkerson, Kris Welker, Lara Poulton, Carson Dunk

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Billman at 12:04 p.m.

The minutes from the September 2, 2009 meeting were presented for approval. Mike Bruch moved to approve the minutes as presented and Stephanie Browning seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The monthly financial report was distributed to each board member. The \$5000 paid to Jeff Billman was for the Christmas lights he had charged to his credit card account. Gloria Taylor moved to accept the financial report as given. Virginia Harman seconded it. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

### **Old Business:**

Amy reported on September's activities. Bryce Harman has designed and printed Amy's business cards for the Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce. The Candidate Forum held at the Voting Center on September 30th was well attended and went well. The work continues on the Visitor's Center with the CTEP plans. The Make a Difference Day project was great. With a good group of volunteers showing up on October 3rd, the outside and inside walls on the Center were all painted. Finishing touches for the Make a Difference Day project will be done on October 24th.

Mike Bruch updated the Board of Directors with the slate of six candidates for the upcoming election. Incumbents include Stephanie Browning and James Laidlaw. Other candidates are Treasure Berkram, Tanya Harper, Tracy Puryear, and Carson Dunk. Ballots will go out November 1st along with a bio sheet on the list of candidates. Ballots are to be mailed back by November 28th.

Corporate sponsors are being sought for the Festival Trees and Keys. Amy passed a sheet of local businesses to approach for corporate sponsorships. Each board member was asked to sign up to contact one or two of the businesses. The three levels of sponsorship will be \$500, \$250, and \$100. However all donations will be accepted. Amy needs the list of sponsors by November 10th in order to get the sponsorship banner printed up.

Jeff said the Christmas lights will be in on Monday or Tuesday. He asked for volunteers to meet on Wednesday, October 14, at 5:30 at Billman's warehouse to put the lights on the strings. Glacier Electric would like to hang them when the weather is not so cold. LeAnne reported Pete Heatherington will be the emcee at the Joe Meagher Memorial Civic Center after the Festival of Lights parade. She will also have a "Jolly Jumper" trampoline there for the kids to be entertained.

Kris Welker gave an update on the liability insurance for the Cut Bank Chamber of Commerce concerning the coverage of the Junior Miss program. In September, the Chamber paid Northern MT Insurance \$1,405.81 as it was due by September 14th. This policy did not cover the Junior Miss Program. After researching a couple of different insurance companies, she suggested we go with the Philadelphia Insurance Company with a yearly premium of \$1475. The bazaar, Cut Bank Junior Miss Program, and Montana State Junior Miss Program would be included for no additional premium. Tippy Burtch made a motion a cancel the current Nautilus policy with a 25% penalty and take out the Philadelphia Insurance policy. Total cost with the 25% penalty and premium would be \$1,813.75. The motion was seconded by Mike Bruch and it passed with no further discussion.

### **New Business:**

Lara Poulton presented the Chamber Board with three different options for the stage canopy to cover the City Park stage. Tom Shock said the Chamber would have to get the approval of the City Council and the Park Board to proceed with this project. The Chamber will meet with the Council and Park Board to get an approval. This project will be put on hold until approval is given. Revenue from the Festival of Trees and Keys will be used for this project.

The Cut Bank Chamber's membership drive will get underway November 1, 2009. The annual Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce letter, the membership application, the list of candidates, and a bio sheet of the candidates will be included in the mailing. The goal for membership will be 175 as it wasn't reached last year. Executive officers needed for next year include the office of vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

### **Visitor's Comments**

Jerilee Wilkerson of the CBDC reported the \$5000 Special Events Advertising Grant along with Stephanie Browning's help was completed and sent off.

A draft for the new sign ordinance for the City of Cut Bank is completed.

Robert Carette said the 1st Annual Octoberfest for the Rockies Healthcare Foundation was successful.

Mike Bruch reported on the progress of the joint meetings between the executive boards of the Northern Rockies Medical Center and Glacier Community Health Center. The meetings are being facilitated by Cut Bank Development Corporation's Executive Director Jerilee Wilkerson and member of the CBDC board of directors. Bruch said another meeting is planned soon with both boards and local dentist Dr. Mark Haemig.

**Reminders:**

Chamber Up Social at the Pioneer Bar on October 13th.

Lunch 'n' Learn to be announced.

Robert Carette made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Stephanie Browning.