

Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes

October 8, 2008 • Cut Bank Development Center at Noon

Directors in Attendance: LeAnne Kavanagh, Jeff Billman, Mike Bruch, Stephanie Browning, Gloria Taylor, Scott Laird, Bob Clary and James Laidlaw.

Directors Absent: Noel Durham

Guests Attending: Mike Koepke and Tom Shock

The meeting was called to order by President LeAnne Kavanagh at 12:02 p.m.

The minutes from the September 3, 2008 meeting were presented for approval. Bob Clary moved to approve the minutes as presented and Scott Laird seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The monthly financial report was distributed to each director. Gloria Taylor moved to accept the treasurer's report as presented and James Laidlaw seconded the motion. Being no further discussion the report was accepted unanimously.

Old Business:

Gloria gave an update on the Make a Difference Day Project at the Glacier County Museum. Dawn Barrett and her son, George, Veronica Anderson, Roy Nollkamper, Doug and Marla Embody, Marilyn Luedkte, Sandy Murphy, Dennis and Betsy Seglem, and Jim and Gloria Taylor were there to work on the Pioneer Bar skirting and the pump house. Due to the rainy weather no painting could be done. Another workday has been set up for October 18. Scott will check with Ann Larson's Careers class and the National Honor Society to see if anyone is interested in working to earn community service hours. Jeff volunteered to do a BBQ but the board felt with so few people showing up at the last work session, this might be a waste of time and money. LeAnne volunteered to make chili instead. She also is ordering water bottles to give out to the first 25 people who show up to help.

Jeff informed the board that November 11th at 6 p.m. will be the work session for the Festival of Lights at the Civic Center. The lights will be hung on Tuesday, November 18 and will be followed by social gathering at the Elks for those who showed up to help with this project. Virginia Harman of Glacier Electric has received approximately \$2,000 in rebates to help pay for the \$4,000 in new LED lights. Jeff needs a Festival of Lights parade chairman.

LeAnne reported there is still time to get money for the CTEP Project for the Visitor's Center. Noel and LeAnne discussed the matter on the phone and Noel assured her he will get together with Anne Thompson and provide her the needed information to get the grant written. The Chamber would have to contract Anne to do this since she is no longer an employee of Sweetgrass Development but rather a contract laborer.

New Business:

The Executive Committee recommended to the board that Amy Overstreet be hired for the position of Administrative Assistant. Scott Laird made a motion to accept the recommendation and it was seconded by Jeff Billman. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Scott will get together with Scott Gage to set up the payroll for her with Gage Accounting, who is doing this for us free of charge.

Mike Bruch presented a list of candidates from the nominating committee for the upcoming director election: Jeff Billman/Billman's; Matt Waller/Northern Chrysler; Tippy Burtch/The Den; Virginia Harman/Glacier Electric; Josh Larson/BJ's; Steve Bucher/Fine Wine on Main; Robert Carette/Bank of Glacier County; Dawn Barrett/Job Service. Scott Laird made a motion to accept the list of candidates. Stephanie Browning seconded the mo-

tion and the board voted unanimously to accept the slate of candidates.

LeAnne and Gloria will get together with Amy to compile the necessary information and forms for the 2009 Membership Drive mailing. The board's goal for membership for 2009 is 175 members. It was agreed to keep the membership dues the same: Business \$100 and Single \$35.

Discussion was held on appointing a chairman for Shakespeare in the Park as Larry Epstein is no longer going to do it. Virginia Harman has expressed interest. Jeff made a motion to appoint Virginia, it was seconded by Gloria Taylor and the board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

This month's Lunch 'n' Learn will feature a leadership development program called Horizons. Dan Clark will be the featured speaker. The goal of this program is to get all ages within the community involved with leadership and making changes to better the community. Joni Stewart and Jennifer Biegler have attended Horizons training and felt it to be a rewarding program. It will be held at the Glacier Electric Hospitality room. Tanya Harper of the Pioneer Bar will be catering lunch for \$5. With the number of students planning on attending this session, LeAnne suggested board members adopt a student/students and pay for their lunch.

Discussion was held on the Cut Bank Chamber of Commerce and NRMC Hospital Auxiliary teaming up to do a fundraiser event involving the Festival of Trees and Dueling Pianos. It will be held at the Joe Meagher Memorial Civic Center on Friday, December 5. The Chamber agreed to be responsible to pay the \$6,500 fee for the Dueling Pianos, which will be solicited from sponsors. James Laidlaw made a motion to approve the hiring of the Chicago Dueling Pianos and Jeff seconded it. With an unanimous vote from the board, it was approved. Jeff will get with Tanya of the Pioneer Bar and Josh Larson of BJ's to seek bids on catering the bar. LeAnne asked Tom Shock to check with the Park Board to see if the \$250 deposit could be waived for this fundraising event.

Nola Peterson contacted LeAnne prior to the meeting about finding a new chairman for the Lewis & Clark Festival Committee. After some research, it was learned this organization is separate from the Chamber and therefore the Chamber would be out of line in advertising for or seeking out a new chairman. The Chamber will assist the committee in their search if they so desire.

Comments

Mike Koepke reported not much happening at CBDC. James Laidlaw said he was trying to set up a meeting for Wednesday, October 15 to set a date for next year's Relay for Life. The Wading Pool Challenge is continuing to grow. The latest figure is near the \$9000 mark.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:59.