

**Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes
June 3, 2015 Regular Monthly Meeting
Cut Bank Chamber Office – Noon**

Directors Present: Calcie DeZort, Adrienne Fritz, Pete Hetherington, Steven Hjartarson, Gail Hofstad, LeAnne Kavanagh, Juanita Meeks, and Matt Waller.

Executive Director: Amy Overstreet

Directors Absent: Jeff Billman, Pat Murphy, Sissy Nygaard.

Guests Attending: Don Grubb, City of Cut Bank and Glacier Cinema.

Regular Business:

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Steven Hjartarson. The minutes from the May meeting were presented for approval. Gail moved to accept the minutes as emailed and Juanita seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, the minutes were approved as emailed.

The financial reports from May 2015 were reviewed. See attached.

Balances were reported as follows: \$15,758.46 Chamber Checking Account; \$16,734.89 Economic Development Checking Account; \$10,105.00, Gift Certificate Account; \$7,418.99 Buckle Account; Lewis and Clark Committee-\$ 6,703.96 (checking) and \$11,189.13 (money market).

Amy informed the board the Chamber has not been reimbursed yet for the orthodontist advertising (Port Authority \$2,000). She updated the board on the Brownsfield Grant and reminded those present the grant will have a \$15,000 grant match and \$5,000 loan match, which the Chamber will receive from the Port Authority. She will also need to attend a seminar in Chicago in September as part of the requirement of the grant. Steven extended the board's appreciation to Amy for all her hard work on the grant.

Juanita moved the financial report be accepted with Adrienne seconding the motion and all voting in favor of the motion.

Old Business:

Walking Trail Update: Amy noted the Anna Jeffries portion of the trail is still on track to be completed by the Lewis and Clark Festival. The groundbreaking event will be held on June 6 and will include a free BBQ at Anna Jeffries. She is working with Stahley Engineering on a TAP grant application (at least \$200,000 with 14% hard match), which will be submitted in July in hopes of funding the Anna Jeffries to Sports Complex portion of the trail.

Economic Development-The Economic Development Committee will meet on June 18 from 1-2 p.m. with Amie Allison to hear her proposal for the Public Drug building. The Executive Committee will meet prior to that meeting on June 17. Amy will prepare a report on what the Chamber has invested to date and the committee will discuss the Chamber's goals/vision for the property, including selling vs. renting/leasing.

Lewis and Clark Festival: Gail updated the board on the festival happenings. Plans are progressing according to the timeline and posters and buttons will be out soon.

Business Appreciation Days BBQ: Steven and Amy will revise the letter and get it out by June 22. Adrienne will work to find out who needs to give the okay to return the BBQ in Browning to the original location. Steven reminded the BAD barbeques will be held on Aug. 3 in Sunburst; Aug. 4 in Valier; Aug. 5 in Cut Bank in conjunction with Shakespeare in the Park; and Aug. 6 in Browning.

Shakespeare in the Park: Juanita said letters for donations will be going out soon. Amy noted the Visitors Center staff will help with this. Housing will be needed for the MSIP staff, she added.

Visitors Center: Amy said everything is going great. The property has been cleaned up and John Fugle will hopefully weld the broken metal sculpture again. Steven asked Amy to provide him with a Chamber gift certificate in appreciation for his donated work.

New Business:

Community Wellness Program: Toni was not here for presentation.

Port Authority Update: LeAnne and Amy informed the board the Port Authority has several personnel and dysfunctional issues going on. Chairman Mike Bruch has been meeting with the commissioners over the issues with some success. The annual meeting will be held in Cut Bank on June 4 and LeAnne will be resigning and Mayor Doug Embody will take her position on the board as a City of Cut Bank appointee.

Cut Bank License Plates: It was suggested to have Cut Bank develop a license plate so Amy did a little research and found the initial cost is \$4,000 and then the Chamber would get \$20 per plate/renewal. She did have some concerns about copyright if the penguin was used. The profit designation could vary from year to year if the Chamber decides to this. Bryce Harman would charge about \$300 to design the plate. For now, the board decided to put this on hold.

Glacier Country Tourism Board Appointment: Robert Carette has resigned as the Glacier County rep to the board to take a seat as a Flathead County rep now that he is employed at Marina Cay. He believes it is important for the Chamber to have a representative on the Glacier Country board, which meets quarterly. LeAnne made a motion to nominate Amy as the Chamber's/Glacier County's rep to the board, seconded by Calcie and approved. The Glacier Country board must now approve her nomination prior to her being seated on the board.

CBEFAA Vouchers: The board likes the \$20 voucher idea for the CBEFAA All Class Reunion attendees, which will see the CBEFAA reimburse the Chamber \$15 for each \$20 voucher spent at the booth at the Lewis and Clark Festival or Visitors Center. Gail made a motion to allow Amy to buy up to \$1,000 of new merchandise and Matt seconded the motion, which passed.

Reminders:

The next Chamber Up that is scheduled is June 24 at the Farmers Market in the City Park from 3-7 p.m.; July 14 Chamber Up will be hosted by DTJ.

Executive Committee will meet on June 17.

Economic Development Committee will meet June 18.

Public Comment:

Don Grubb said the City of Cut Bank is seeking letters of support for its TIGER Grant.

Those interested in writing a letter should contact City Hall for more information/

Motion to adjourn by Pete, second by Gail, and unanimous approval.

LeAnne Kavanagh
Secretary/Director