

Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes
Wednesday, September 7, 2022, Regular Monthly Meeting
Cut Bank Chamber Office, 6:30 p.m.

Directors Present: Rachel Dosch, Jenika Sammons, Stephanie Eney, Nate Kavanagh, Melissa Lee, Larry Schwindt, Kacie Fey

Visitors Present: NA

Executive Director: NA

Directors Absent: Rhonda Grainger

Regular Business:

Approval of August 2022 meeting minutes: Rachel made a motion to approve the meeting minutes with the correction of her name spelling. Larry seconded and the motion carried.

Approval of August 2022 financials: The August financial report was not ready at the time of the meeting and so this has been tabled until the October meeting.

Old Business:

Business Improvement Awards: Kacie is still working with McDonald's so they can be presented the award. The Cut Bank Creek Brewery will be the next recipient of the award.

Public Drug: The sale has gone through, the only thing that we need to do is collect our sandwich boards and store them in a new location.

Welcome Bags: We will assemble the Welcome Bags at the beginning of the October meeting.

Reimagining Rural Grant: Discussion was had amongst the board on the Chamber's comfort level of financial contribution to this project. As the project seems to be at a standstill, Nate proposed the Chamber contribute up to \$10,000. Concern was expressed by members of the board that this is too much and that there needs to be more conversations and commitments made from other entities in town to see this project come to fruition. A firm figure for the Chamber's financial contribution was not decided, but it was clear more conversations needed to be had and resources secured before the Chamber would decide on a set dollar amount.

Business Appreciation Days: The BAD barbecues were an overall success and the purchase of the trailer made them go much smoother. Turnout at Valier was not huge, but people were very appreciative. Cut Bank had an excellent turnout and Sunburst was small, but again appreciative. Turnout at the Browning barbecue was very low and appears to be a trend that the Chamber is seeing in recent years. It was discussed whether to continue the effort to host barbecues in neighboring communities. After a lengthy discussion, the board decided to revisit pros and cons next year during planning the next Business Appreciation Days.

Shakespeare in the Parks: The event was a success and easy to coordinate and is good to pair with Cut Bank's BAD barbecue.

Holiday Bazaar Update: The date for the 2022 Bazaar is November 5 and applications are out. The vendor only Facebook page is a main source of communication with vendors. We will need help coordinating volunteers for the event as it gets closer.

Hi-Line Arts Grant: Nate is waiting to hear from the artist who created the sculptures meant for the parking lot that was to be created when the Mercantile building was demolished. Once he hears back from the artist, we can begin planning for installment of the sculptures elsewhere.

New Business:

Nominating Committee: We need to fill up to 5 board member vacancies. We need to confirm which seats will be appointments and how long those appointments will be and we need to confirm which seats will be full-three year terms. The full board agreed to have conversations around the community to present a list of names at the October meeting.

Amber Simonds Director Resignation: The Board accepted the resignation of Amber Simonds.

Membership Drive: The Membership drive will be in November and December and so be prepared to stuff envelopes and make in-person asks for membership.

Visitor Comments and Questions:

None