**Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes**

**June 5th, 2019, Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Cut Bank Chamber Office – Noon**

**Directors Present:** Nicole Altenburg, Stephanie Eney, Brandon Greco, Don Grubb, Nate Kavanagh, Calcie Stubbs, Jessica Waldner, Bryan Simons

**Executive Director:** Amy Overstreet

**Directors Absent:** JR Meyers (Excused), Kristi Rowell (Excused), Ric Beals (Excused)

**Bookkeeper:** Todd Eney (Not Present)

**Office Assistant:** Erin Kittson (Not Present)

**Guests Attending:** Juanita Meeks, Shawn Christiaens, Mikayla Garcia, Adrienne Fritz, Ashley Kavanagh, Jeff Billman, Brenda Schilling

**Regular Business:** The meeting was called to order Vice President Calcie Stubbs. The minutes from the May 8th meeting were presented for approval. Jess Waldner made the motion to approve and accept the minutes with Don Grubb seconding the motion. Being no further discussion, the minutes were approved.

The financial reports from May were reviewed. See attached.

Balances’ were reported as follows: Chamber Checking Account $1,067.96; Savings – Hiline Arts Grant $2,505.24; Economic Development Checking Account $260.69; Gift Certificate Account $1,101.41; Buckle Account $7,463.99.

Treasurer Nate Kavanagh presented the financials. Nate noted that May was a good month for the Chamber he only had to make a few transfers. Amy also noted that there were a few charges to different business’ that were for gift certificates for the Public Drug Chamber Up. Don Grubb made the motion to approve the May financials with Jess Waldner seconding the motion. Being no further discussion, the financials were approved.

City of Cut Bank police officer Mike Schultz had a short presentation on the upcoming Mill Levy to support the financial side of the SRO officer at the schools. The police department is out of options and grants so the City placed a vote for a mill levy for funding a School Resource Officer position on a July ballot. He was also hoping the Chamber would support having a Chamber Up or a Lunch and Learn so people would be able to see both sides of the levy and have the information they need to make an informative vote. The Chamber later decided to host a non-biased informational forum to allow public education regarding the mill levy.

**Old Business**

**Mercantile Update:** Amy updated that one week ago she was at the commissioners meeting with Jeff and Mayor Raemaker. They presented that the Public Drug building has been for sale and we have a buyer contingent upon the mercantile building being torn down before they purchase. This has been an ongoing process since June of 2016. Amy is hopeful something will happen because the Commissioners have a schedule meeting with their engineer on the 20th of this month to discuss a timeline. Amy is going to check in with the commissioners regularly until then to make sure this stays a priority so we can at least get that accomplished before we can move forward with any other options.

**Public Drug Update:** Amy noted that the Chamber Up at the Public Drug was a success.

**Lewis & Clark Festival Update:** Nicole Altenburg noted that everything is lining up and the committee is excited about the upcoming bands and a few new things happening this year.

**Golf Tournament Update:** Set for June 23rd at Cut Bank Golf and Country Club

**Shakespeare in the Parks:** Set for August 7th at the City Park during Business Appreciation Days

**Business Appreciation Days:** Everything is on track and this is set for August 5th-8th in Valier, Sunburst, Cut Bank and Browning.

**New Business**

**Legislative Update:** Llew Jones decided to host an informational luncheon next week at the Pioneer Bar instead of having an update at the Chamber Board meeting.

**Discuss/Approve Offer to Purchase Public Drug Building:** Adrienne Fritz presented her plans upon purchasing the public drug building. She offered the Chamber $60,000 contingent that the mercantile be on track to be torn down. She is hoping to turn the building into an Edward Jones office upstairs, room for retail stores, and a public conference room. She has big plans to restore the building. She also noted that Dye Tavary and Judge has agreed to donate back 50% of their commissions back to the Chamber. Jeff Billman noted that when he was on the board this is exactly the type of goal they had when purchasing this building. After her presentation she left so the directors could discuss what they felt was the best way to proceed. The general consensus was that this will be a great asset to the community but it will be hard to sign any sort of “buy/sell agreement” when it is contingent on waiting for the county to tear down the mercantile building. Brenda Schilling from the Port Authority noted that maybe the City of Cut Bank could apply for a grant with the assistance of Sweetgrass Development for structural analysis to see if there is different route to take. There is going to have to be a special meeting set to further discuss this because nobody could come to an agreement as to how we should proceed.

**Update on East End of Cut Bank Chamber Signs:** Tabled

**Visitor’s Center Sign and Replacement Quote:** Tabled

**Donation Request from Glacier County Library:** The board agreed to donate two youth t-shirts

**Discussion of Revision of Political Endorsement Policy & Approval:** Tabled

**Reminders:**

• Customer Service Training –June 5th, Chamber Office, 4pm

• Chamber Challenge Golf Tournament – June 23rd

• July Board Meeting – July 10th, Chamber Office, 12-1pm

• Lewis & Clark Festival– July 25th thru 28th

• Business Appreciation Days – August 5th thru 8th

• August Board Meeting – August 7th, Chamber Office, 12-1pm

• Shakespeare in the Parks – August 7th

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Jessica Waldner**

**Secretary/Director**