

Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes
Wednesday, June 8, 2022, Regular Monthly Meeting
Cut Bank Chamber Office, Noon

Directors Present: Rachel Dosch, Jenika Sammons, Stephanie Eney, Nate Kavanagh, Melissa Lee

Visitors Present: NA

Executive Director: NA

Directors Absent: Rhonda Grainger, Amber Simonds, Larry Schwindt, Kacie Fey

Regular Business:

Approval of May 2022 meeting minutes: The May meeting minutes were not presented to the board, so this item was tabled until the July meeting.

Approval of January 2022 financials: Monthly expenses in the Operating account and the status of the remaining accounts were discussed. Jenika made a motion to approve the financials as presented, Stephanie seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Business Improvement Awards: McDonald's renovation is now complete, so they can be presented the award for June. Norman's has finished their remodel in the mall and will be scheduled for the award in July.

Public Drug: Stephanie and Nate shared that they met with Chrissy and Aaron Grimm to discuss the sale of the building, its condition, and findings from inspections that have been done in the last year. Water hookups have been restored and outfitted with a 2-inch pipe into the building during the City's water project on Central Avenue. This will help with any development of the building. After discovering issues with the sewer and water lines, the Grimms expressed a desire for a price cut. They presented a reduction figure of \$12,500 prior to the meeting via email. After discussion, the Chamber board was in agreement that a \$10,000 price reduction from \$50,000 was possible to help the sale of the building, and future development, move forward. Rachel made a motion that the Chamber reduce the price of the building by \$10,000 and stands at \$40,000 as the bottom purchase price of the Public Drug building. Melissa seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Membership Drive: No update to report.

Welcome Bags: Welcome bags are needed so Nate said he would draft an email to send out to members and Stephanie volunteered to lead a night where we would prepare the new bags.

Visitor Center: Things are running smoothly now that plumbing issues have been fixed. Adam Ridgeway has offered to remove dead trees and spruce up benches and picnic tables that need painting. The Chamber board decided to pay Adam \$250 to remove the dead trees from the Visitor Center grounds.

Reimagining Rural Grant: Nate reported that he had a positive meeting with the City of Cut Bank and they have decided to contribute \$1,500 toward the community branding project. He has reached out to the Glacier County Development Corporation, but has yet to speak at a meeting. Once the project is explained and questions are answered, people seem to jump on board with the project.

Business Appreciation Days: The barbecues are scheduled for August 15-18 in Valier, Sunburst, Browning, and Cut Bank.

Shakespeare in the Parks: The event is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 16. Promotional materials have arrived and so we will distribute around town and possibly in neighboring communities as it gets closer to the event.

Lewis and Clark Days: Plans are coming along for this year's event. The Chamber has fielded some inquiries about vendor booths, Sissy Nygaard is the contact. We will know more at the July meeting about where the Chamber can volunteer and what needs to happen with the Beer Booth as the Chamber has historically been in charge of serving.

Holiday Bazaar Update: We need to confirm the date of next year's Bazaar and would like it to coincide with when there is no school on Friday to make set up easier. Nate will contact Shirley Gage at the school and see which dates are possible and if we can add it to the school calendar. November 5th and November 12th would be our top two choices.

New Business:

Hi-Line Arts Grant: Stephanie would like the Chamber to look into installing the sculptures that were made with the help of the Hi-Line Arts Grant funds years ago. The remaining balance in the Hi-Line Arts Grant account is for sculpture installation, which has been stalled due to the Mercantile building issues. The sculptures were meant for the parking lot that was to be created upon destruction of the Mercantile building. Because that does not appear to be moving forward, Stephanie proposed the Chamber find a new space for those sculptures around town. We will need to do some digging as to who the artist is, where the sculpture(s) are, and how we can get them to Cut Bank.

Visitor Comments and Questions:

None