

**Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes
Feb. 3, 2016 Regular Monthly Meeting
Cut Bank Chamber Office – Noon**

Directors Present: Jeff Billman, Adrienne Fritz, Steven Hjartarson, LeAnne Kavanagh, Juanita Meeks, Sissy Nygaard, Matt Waller.

Executive Director: Amy Overstreet

Directors Absent: Pete Hetherington, Calcie DeZort and Pat Murphy (Excused).

Guests Attending: Ryan Eney (appointed to the board during the meeting)

Regular Business

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

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

Balances were reported as follows: \$13,720.95 Chamber Checking Account; \$6,647.47 Economic Development Checking Account; \$4,667.67, Gift Certificate Account; \$7,418.99 Buckle Account; Lewis and Clark Committee-\$ 2,735.14 (checking) and \$16,186.44 (money market).

Sissy and Amy provided some additional information regarding the reimbursement of the Public Drug project expenses, specifically for Newfields, which will be reimbursed to the Chamber's checking account. Amy reported there is still a payment of \$1,000 from the Festival of Trees fundraiser outstanding that is still coming in.

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

Old Business

Committee updates

Economic Development: Remediation of the Public Drug building has started and following the additional testing that was done, Amy reported the contractor will be able to do the work for the less expensive options which will allow approximately \$42,500 for the replacement of the second floor windows. The abatement project is scheduled to be completed by March 1.

Halona Medical Services notified the Chamber they will be moving out of the building, but another tenant has expressed interest in the space beginning March 1. A motion was made by Juanita, seconded by Adrienne to lease the space to Don McIlvain for six months, with certain conditions. The board approved the motion. Amy will have Rod Peterson review the lease that is being proposed at \$500 per month.

Stage Cover: Sissy is still waiting to hear from City officials on the stage cover project. Councilman Don Grubb is following up on this with Sissy.

Membership: LeAnne reported membership was at 143 as of the meeting and passed out the list of non-renewed members from 2015. She issued a challenge to the board to help reach the goal of 200 members. Directors who recruit or renew five members before the March meeting will receive a \$20 Chamber gift certificate. For every member they recruit/renew over five they will receive an additional \$5 gift certificate. The director who recruits/renews the most members will also receive a \$50 gift card donated by Billman's Inc.

Banquet: Jeff announced the 2016 banquet will be held on Saturday, April 23 and will feature the Bop-a-Dips. The cost will be \$4,500 and Amy will begin work to get event sponsors, including talking to officials from CCA about sponsorship and auction items. A portion of the banquet proceeds will be used to replace the snowflake Christmas decorations that were damaged due to the high winds.

Cut Bank Trails: Amy reminded everyone to check out the State Farm video on the Cut Bank Trails project, with she described as "very professional" and an asset to the community's tourism efforts. They are still waiting to hear on a few other grants.

Ice Skating Rink: Pete continues to work on this. The rink has been flooded twice but the warm weather is not providing much of an opportunity to use the rink. Jeff said the work done has helped reduce the time/water required to fill the rink and Calcie is working on getting power to the warming hut and lights at the rink.

New Business

Filling Director Vacancy: It was proposed the vacancy created by the resignation of Gail will be filled by Ryan Eney of Glacier Bank. On the motion of Matt and second by Steven, Ryan was appointed to fill the three year term previously held by Gail Hofstad.

2015 Financial Audit: Sissy reported Elaine Mitchell of Utterback Accounting has agreed to do the audit, although she is not sure it will be done in time to be presented at the annual meeting.

2016 Lewis and Clark Festival: Sissy announced the dates for this year's Lewis and Clark Festival have been set and will be the weekend of July 28-30.

Budgets: The budget for the Chamber and the Economic Development Committee was presented by Sissy and discussed. On the motion of Ryan and second by Juanita both budgets were approved and the board commended Sissy for a job well done on the preparation of the 2016 budgets.

Directors and Officers E/O Insurance: Juanita reviewed the insurance coverage and answered questions from the board. The premium is the same as last year, she added. Jeff said he contacted the Montana Chamber of Commerce and they assured him the coverage was adequate for a Chamber our size. On the motion of Sissy and second by Ryan the motion to renew the policy was approved.

Reminders

The February Chamber Up will be hosted by GCHC on Feb. 9 from 5:30-7 p.m.

The Chamber's Annual Meeting will be held on Feb. 24 from 12-1 p.m. at GEC's hospitality room.

The meeting was adjourned.

LeAnne Kavanagh
Secretary/Director