

Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes
Wednesday, February 9, 2022, Regular Monthly Meeting
Cut Bank Chamber Office, Noon

Directors Present: Rachel Dosch, Jenika Sammons, Stephanie Eney, Nate Kavanagh, Larry Schwindt, JR Myers, Melissa Lee, Amber Simonds

Visitors Present: Mike Wineman and Kim Winchell

Executive Director: NA

Directors Absent: Kacie Fey, Rhonda Grainger

Regular Business:

Approval of January 2022 meeting minutes: Larry noted the February meeting date needed to be changed to February 9. After no further discussion, Rachel made a motion to approve the minutes with that change, Jenika seconded and the motion carried.

Approval of January 2022 financials: Monthly expenses in the Operating account and the status of the Economic Development account were discussed. Jenika made a motion to approve the January financials, Amber seconded and the motion carried.

Old Business:

Business Improvement Awards: Larry reported that Kacie said that McDonald's would be interested in joining and once membership is received and their lobby is open we would award McDonald's with the Business Improvement Award.

Public Drug: Chrissy and Aaron Grimm continue to occupy and rent the building. Stephanie reported that the damage to the roof from the Glacier Hotel fire would be repaired and paid for by insurance. The idea of having an attorney draft a buy/sell agreement was brought up. Nate will reach out to Peterson, Peterson & Shors to explore that option to sell the building.

Chamber Up After 5: No update to report.

Port Authority Report: Mike Wineman reported there is no update from the Port Authority; however, he did wish to bring up something on behalf of the City of Cut Bank. In order to serve alcohol and have open containers, the City needs to make a resolution. In the past, we have received permission from the City, but we need to go through the proper and formal channels. To do this, we need to contact the City at least 30 days in advance to be on the agenda and allow the council time to make the resolution. This will most likely only impact Lewis and Clark Days. Jenika and other board members on the Lewis and Clark Committee will keep this in mind moving forward.

Membership Drive: Stephanie reported that about 40 have come in so far, which equates to about \$7,000. At the next meeting we will make a list of nonrenewed members and each director will make an in-person ask.

Reimagining Rural Grant: We will find out in mid-February if we received the grant. Nate shared the grant will be used to help fund a branding initiative, which will help create consistent imaging for marketing and signage in town. He also stressed the importance of moving forward with this project even if we do not receive the grant. By the March meeting we will know if we received the grant or not.

Committee Assignments: The vacant committee assignments as well as Destiny Carlton's posts were discussed. A revised list will be emailed to the group once changes are made.

Annual Meeting: Because we are too close to the meeting to post the agenda, the board decided to change the meeting date to Thursday, February 24 at noon in the Chamber office. The agenda needs to be posted two weeks in advance, so Stephanie and Nate will develop and post the agenda by Thursday, February 10 for the upcoming meeting.

New Business:

Shakespeare in the Parks: The organization mailed the Chamber a letter to confirm the 2022 show date. Stephanie believed it was Aug. 16. The Board decided to lock in the date that Shakespeare in the Parks proposed and organize Business Appreciation Days around that. Larry also volunteered to help JR with the Shakespeare in the Park committee.

Directors & Officers Insurance Renewal: It is time to renew insurance coverage that protects the Board of Directors. Stephanie explained the importance and necessity of this insurance. JR made a motion to renew our insurance coverage with Mountain Front Agency, Amber seconded and the motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Bazaar Help Issues: Stephanie shared there was some confusion shared by Randi Larson from CBHS/CBMS about the dollar amount the Chamber paid out to the CBHS Band for the help they provided. Our records and memory are at odds with the number of students Mrs. Larson claimed were present at the Bazaar to help. In the future, the Chamber will have a sign in/out sheet for student groups to track how much is to be paid out to student groups.

Banquet Planning: Rachel shared her idea and plans for a masquerade themed banquet. The board decided on April 9 in the Civic Center (pending issues with the school calendar). The Banquet Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 15 at 5:15 in the Chamber building to kick-off planning for the event.

Visitor Comments and Questions:

Mayor Kim Winchell shared that the City of Cut Bank is in the beginning process of redoing its website and reviewing lots of ordinances and policies. She is eager to collaborate with the Chamber.