

Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes
March 8, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting
Cut Bank Chamber Office – Noon

Directors Present: Jeff Billman, Ryan Eney, Juanita Meeks, Toni Altenburg, Jess Waldner, Ric Beals, Don Grubb, Michelle Nygaard.

Executive Director: Amy Overstreet

Directors Absent: Matt Waller (excused), Pat Murphy (excused) & Calcie DeZort (excused)

Guests Attending:

Regular Business: The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Billman. The minutes from the February 8th meeting were presented for approval. There being no changes, Don moved to accept the minutes as written. Ric seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, the minutes were approved as written. Also, the minutes from the February 22nd Annual meeting were presented for approval. There being no changes, Don moved to accept the minutes as written. Michelle seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, the minutes were approved as written.

The financial reports from February 2017 were reviewed. See attached. Balances were reported as follows: \$12,561.68 Chamber Checking Account; \$742.34 Economic Development Checking Account; \$4,817.72 Gift Certificate Account; \$7,418.99 Buckle Ac-count; Lewis and Clark Committee 2,735.64 (checking) and \$16,188.49 (money market).

Ryan announced that there would be a change in the format of the financial reports to resemble a check registry for ease of review. Ric moved to accept the financial report with Don seconding the motion and all voting for the motion.

Old Business

Committee updates

Economic Development/Public Drug Update: Amy stated that the structural analysis has been completed by BCE. We received a preliminary report at the end of February and expect to receive the final report next week. In general, the engineers felt that the building was in better shape than expected with no major structural deficiencies noted. We will be provided with a report of the demolition sequence of events.

Stage Cover Update: Amy reported that the City has ordered the Kokomo structure and we are on track to have it completed by the time the Lewis and Clark Festival occurs.

Mercantile Update: Amy has been will meet with the Glacier County PR Manager Mike Kittson to discuss the demolition of the building and sequence of events. We received the Hi-line Arts Project grant to fund the art-scape for the renovated parking lot.

Membership Drive: Ryan and Amy reported that currently memberships are at 155, still below last year's final total of 205. He recommended that each of the Board members contact the businesses and individuals that they had signed up to contact. He also mentioned that personal visits seem to be effective in re-enrolling past members. Extra forms were made available.

Banquet Discussion/Citizen of the Year Nominations: Jeff and Jess reported that DTJ Insurance and Real Estate has offered to provide and prepare the meal for the banquet. We still need additional sponsors; we are currently at 5 compared to 10 for last year. Jeff stated that we need Citizen of the Year Nominations and clarified that Board members can submit nominations. All nominations need to be in by April 1st. Amy distributed tickets to Board members for sale. We will start seeking auction items next month.

Lewis & Clark Festival Update: Ryan reported that the theme will be identified by the next meeting. Once the theme is determined, Calcie DeZort will design the logo which allows posters

and buttons to be produced. Josh Larson has been working on the entertainment and is close to completion. The Committee is looking into renting a dance floor to encourage more dancing in the park. The plan is still to sell buttons directly to the businesses for them to re-sell.

New Business

City of Cut Bank Beautification Committee: Amy reported that there is interest in revitalizing the Beautification Committee but no one has volunteered to be the chairperson. Ideally, the Committee needs to be up and running by early spring to allow for planting of flowers. Suggestions were made to possibly have the local businesses care for the planters in front of their establishments.

Prime Rib Cook-Off: Amy inquired as to the need to have a fund-raiser at this time. There is money in the park levy fund to help with the stage cover costs. It was decided to do this fund raiser later, possibly with the Chamber Golf Tournament, for Economic Development.

Glacier Electric Annual Meeting Donation Request Approval: The Glacier Electric Annual meeting is scheduled for April 12th @ 5:30 pm. They have requested a donation from the Chamber and it was agreed to donate a sweat shirt, 2 banquet tickets, and a gift certificate.

Cut Bank Photo Contest: Amy inquired about whether we should have the photo contest this year. It has been a great way to get pictures for the website in the past. It was recommended to take a year off to get renewed interest and have a photo board at the Banquet to show some of the past year's entrees.

Chamber Cell Phone Plan Discussion/Approval: Amy expressed concern for the expense of her Chamber cell phone. Her contract is up for renewal and she has requested to enroll in her family's plan and be paid a stipend of \$50 to cover the cost which is less than the current charges. She recommended paying one lump sum at the end of the plan's contract year (4/1/18). Jeff made a motion to reimburse Amy Overstreet \$50/per month and paid annually as a Chamber cell phone stipend. Juanita seconded the motion and motion was unanimously approved.

Reminders:

- Chamber Up – Mane Concern March 14th 5:30 to 7:00pm
- Banquet Event Sponsorships due March 29th, 2017
- Citizen of the Year Nominations due April 3rd, 2017
- April Board Meeting – April 5th 12-1 Chamber Office

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Toni Altenburg for
Calcie DeZort
Secretary/Director**