

## **Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes**

**July 15, 2009**

**Cut Bank Development Center – Noon**

**Directors in Attendance:** Mike Bruch, James Laidlaw, Stephanie Browning, LeAnne Kavanagh, Gloria Taylor, Scott Laird, Jeff Billman, Josh Larson, Robert Carette,

**Executive Director:** Amy Overstreet

**Directors Absent:** Tippy Burtch

**Directors Unexcused:** Steve Bucher

**Guests Attending:** Mayor Doug Embody, Tia Troy, Jan Watkins, Racene Friede

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Billman at 12:06 p.m.

The minutes from the June 3, 2009 meeting were presented for approval. Robert Carette moved to approve the minutes as presented and Scott Laird seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The monthly financial report was presented by Treasurer Scott Laird. It was brought to attention the Business Appreciation Days may have a few more expenses yet to be paid. LeAnne moved to accept the financial report as given. Mike Bruch seconded it. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

### **Old Business**

Amy updated the Chamber boards with a June report. The Website continues to get several hits. The public interest is growing. The Visitor's Center CTEP project is moving right along. All mandatory bids are ready to be reviewed. Bryce Harman is working on a couple of designs for the signage for the Visitor's Center building. LeAnne urged everyone to stop by the Visitor's Center as the employees have done a great job in making it user friendly. Over 400 visitors have stopped.

Jeff thanked all the volunteer workers for Business Appreciation Days. The residents of Valier, Sunburst, and Browning were also very thankful and appreciative. Weed and Feed Day was a success as there was no expenses. The food left over from the BAD was used for the BBQ luncheon.

Schedules and activities for Lewis and Clark Days are in place as reported by Stephanie Browning. The Beer Wagon Schedule is completed. The Dunking Booth needs one more spot filled. Participants include James Laidlaw, Jason Larson, Larry Epstein, Tom Shock, David Kennedy, Jeff Billman, Matt Waller, Wade Jacobsen, and Jason Abbot, & Doug Embody. Stephanie thanked everyone for volunteering their time and services. The Lewis and Clark buttons have been distributed to various businesses to sell for \$5 a button.

Gloria asked Chamber board members to meet at Billman's on Sunday at 4 p.m. to start building the float for the parade.

### **New Business:**

Robert introduced guests Tia Troy, Jan Watkins, and Racene Friede all representatives with the Glacier Country Regional Tourism Commission of which Robert was recently appointed to its Board of Directors. While in Cut Bank, they toured several entities including the Airport, Glacier County Museum, and the Visitor's Information Center. They are very much impressed with what Cut Bank has to offer to attract tourism to our area. They suggested different ideas on how to communicate with them in order to promote our area.

Shakespeare in the Park will be August 5, 2009 in the City Park starting at 6 p.m. Virginia Harman is looking for places for the cast to spend the night. Donations for the event have reached \$950. The amount needed is \$1400-\$1500. Amy asked for volunteers to bring side dishes, desserts, and drinks for the cast to have after their performance.

James said the Relay For Life will have a booth in the City Park during Lewis & Clark Days with various items for sale. Over \$10,000 in corporate sponsors has been raised. The H.C. Elementary fence will have a sign on it constructed out of purple cups to promote "Relay For Life." Huggy Bear Hughes will be the Emcee for the event. Tim Curtiss with Bar Bed & Blue will have live entertainment throughout the evening. Tim has lots of activities planned for the 12 hour walk.

Montana State Junior Miss Pageant will be held on August 8, 2009 at the Cut Bank High School Auditorium starting at 6:30 p.m. The contestants will arrive in Cut Bank August 3. They will have a community service day at the Glacier Care Center. They will also be selling root beer floats in the park during the Shakespeare in the Park performance. The Chamber will be doing a complimentary lunch for them at the Cut Bank Golf and Country Club on August 5 along with of monthly board meeting.

Jeff received a Email from DiJulio Displays with a final cost for the Christmas lights.

45 - 100 ft 14 ga. Heavy Duty Light Lines, 15" spacing, twist-pin sockets, no leads or end connectors at \$97 each.

Total \$4,365. 3,600 - C9 LED lamps, cool white, at \$1.60 each. Total \$5,760. Total purchase price \$10,125.

Rebate for the bulbs will \$.95 each which will total \$3,420. The final cost for the lights with the rebates will \$6,705. Robert Carette made a motion to purchase the Christmas lights and it was seconded by James Laidlaw. The motion passed unanimously. Glacier Electric will hang the lights.

Bob Clary resigned from the Chamber Board effectively immediately. LeAnne made a motion to accept his resignation. The motion was seconded by Scott Laird and was passed. With the last election of Board Directors, Virginia Harmon had the

next most votes from the Chamber members. Gloria Taylor made a motion to appoint Virginia Harmon to the Chamber board as she was next to receive the most votes to the Chamber Board of Directors with the last election. Robert Carette seconded it. The motion passed.

**Visitor's Comments:**

No CBDC report. Mke Koepke has resigned as Director.

Mayor Doug Embody said the murals for the Public Drug store and old Gamble building are ready and will be hung shortly.

Gloria asked everyone to be thinking of a good project for Make A Difference Day.

Robert Carette and his wife have purchased the Jean of School Dance building. Their plans are to put in a daycare center as the Gingerbread and Sugar & Spice daycares are closing.

**Reminders:**

No Chamber Up after 5 for July.

No Lunch 'n' Learn in July

Gloria Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Stephanie Browning.