

**Cut Bank Are Chamber of Commerce
March 9, 2010 – CBDC Office – Noon**

Directors in Attendance: Robert Carette, Josh Larson, Dawn Barrett, Jeff Billman, Stephanie Browning, Scott Laird and Carson Dunk

Directors Excused: Virginia Harman, Gloria Taylor, Tippy Burtch and Treasure Berkram

Executive Director Excused: Amy Overstreet

Guests Attending: LeAnne Kavanagh, Jerilee Wilkerson, Marilyn Dunk, Tracy Puryear, Mayor Embody and Elaine Mitchell

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

The minutes from the February 3rd were presented for approval with one change which was Gloria Taylor's emailed request for the budget amount to be \$700 for the Make A Difference Day Project this year not to add \$700 to the existing budget. Scott Laird moved to approve the change and Robert Carette seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

February's financial review was approved by Robert and seconded by Carson. The January financial report will be available to review at the next meeting.

Visitor Elaine Mitchell attended our meeting on behalf of the Northern Rockies Medical Center requesting everyone's support in the June 8, 2010 primary election. NRMC is requesting a county-wide 15 mill increase for a Hospital Agency Fund Increase which will allow NRMC to: Achieve much-needed updates to the existing facility and equipment and reinvest in staff education-enhancing knowledge, skill and abilities. Support from county taxpayers will allow NRMC to reinvest in the future, creating a healthier hospital and healthier community. Their committee meets every Tuesday night if you would like more information or to attend, contact Elaine. There will be door hangers distributed one week prior to the election.

Old Business:

Jeff Billman thanked the people that worked toward getting more businesses to join the Gift Certificate Program. There are no actual numbers yet, but will have some in the future.

Amy Overstreet is now on maternity leave and both her and their new baby girl are doing well.

Robert Carette reported that Glacier Country's Board of Directors meeting will be in Cut Bank this time. The meeting is May 11th from 1 to 4 p.m. at Glacier Electric and it is open to the public. The group will be staying at Super 8. Robert asked Jeff Billman as well as Mayor Embody to make a small presentation at the meeting and they both agreed.

The membership drive is going well according to Jeff as we currently have 144 members. Another letter went out in February requesting those members/businesses that have not joined to please do so. We do have 15 new members in 2010 that we did not have in 2009. Our goal for 2010 is 175.

Jeff handed out our Chamber Banquet tickets for all of us to sell. Posters have been made and table sponsor forms were distributed to all of us. Jeff explained the prices for tables/tickets are the same as last year. The fire department has agreed to cook again this year and Bar, Bed & Blue will be the music for the evening. A set up and tear down group has been found. We still do not have a speaker for the event but Jeff is going to talk to Virginia Harman with Glacier Electric to see if we can't use the magician they are having that day as entertainment for their annual meeting. Jeff reminded us that we still need auction items. The Revitalization Committee is giving us some prints for auction items. Please start early selling tickets!!!

The Building Acquisition proposal has slowed down a little until after tax season as Scott Gage is a little tied up right now. Both he and Mike Bruch have been in contact with Phyllis Myhre. She is all for the idea just would like the old Myhre Jewelry sign to stay intact. Mayor Embody will check on the City possibly giving us a 5 year tax break. Jeff commented that if we do get the building it is possible that the Port Authority could help with the project as well.

Steph Browning reported on the Lewis & Clark Festival. The Beer Wagon sign up sheet will be coming around soon. The parade is expected to be pretty big this year as the all school reunion should bring in some "decade" floats. The entertainment is pretty well booked and either the French Club or Girl Scouts or possibly both groups will host the Sunday morning breakfast in the Civic Center.

New Business:

Jeff Billman has talked to Jennifer Biegler and the main swimming pool will open around June 12th. Jeff thought it would be a good idea to have a Wading Pool Grand Opening BBQ around the 5th or 6th of June. Scott Laird made a motion to approve and Carson Dunk seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The City Spray Day is getting organized according to Jeff but no set date yet. The County will provide the weed spray and sprayers. It is felt that there should be more of a generic weed spray used this year – not one to just kill the knapweed. The Port Authority wants to help with this project once a date is picked.

Visitor Comments:

Marilyn Dunk would like to change the 50/50 drawings at our Chamber Up at 5 functions to be every third time rather than every time. And maybe whoever has the winning ticket could receive a Chamber tote or something fun like that. Everyone thought that was a great idea.

Reminders:

Chamber Up After 5, March 24th @ Glacier Care Center @ 5:30 p.m.
Lunch n' Learn, March 17th @ The Den

Stephanie Browning moved to adjourn the meeting and Scott Laird seconded the motion.