

Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes
May 6, 2009,
Cut Bank Development Center – Noon

Directors in Attendance: LeAnne Kavanagh, Gloria Taylor, Bob Clary, Scott Laird, Jeff Billman, Josh Larson, Robert Carette,

Executive Director: Amy Overstreet

Directors Absent: Stephanie Browning, Mike Bruch

Directors Unexcused: Steve Bucher

Guests Attending: Tom Shock, Mike Koepke, Tracy Puryear, Carson & Marilyn Dunk, Dawn Barrett, Damon Bunting, Mayor Doug Embody, Marla Embody

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Billman at 12:05 p.m.

The minutes from the April 1, 2009 meeting were presented for approval. LeAnne Kavanagh moved to approve the minutes as presented and Bob Clary seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, the minutes were approved unanimously.

The monthly financial report was given by Treasurer Scott Laird. Gloria Taylor moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented and Bob Clary seconded it. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

Website Advertising needs to be marketed and sold to businesses. Amy will do a mass email to the Chamber membership about Website Advertising. She will also explain what link to click on which will show the rates for advertising.

Membership is up to 155. Amy suggested maybe the Chamber could think of some type of incentives to get people to join.

No report on the Lewis and Clark festival as Stephanie was absent.

The annual Chamber banquet was another success. Expenses were down about \$1,000. According to the treasurer's banquet report, expenses this year were \$4,861.88 and the total revenue was \$19,725.00 for a net profit to date of \$15,013. Jeff expressed his appreciation to all those who helped make the banquet so successful. LeAnne made motion to give the Cut Bank Volunteer Fire Department a \$500 donation towards the Memorial Plaque of past firemen in appreciation for cooking the prime rib dinner for the banquet. The motion was seconded by James Laidlaw. The motion passed unanimously.

The city "Spray Day" will be June 27th. Everyone is to meet at the Visitor Center starting at 7 a.m. Bill Bandel and an employee from the City will instruct us on where and what needs to spray. The sprayers and spray will be provided by the Glacier County Weed Department. The City of Cut Bank will also participate with either city employees and/or council members providing additional manpower and equipment. Jeff will also furnish some sprayers and will keep them in storage for future use.

Clean-up week starts on Monday, May 11. The Chamber will clean up the downtown area from the stoplight to the Visitor's Center starting at 9 a.m.

The Business Appreciation Days meeting is set for May 7 at 11 a.m. at Charlie's Pizza.

Jeff received confirmation from Rita Prueziniski of DiJulio Displays as to what the cost of the Christmas Lights on Main Street. The cost of 45 strings (100 ft each, 14 ga. Heavy Duty Light Lines, 15" spacing twist-pin sockets, no leads or end connectors, with C9 LED lamps, cool white) will be \$225 each for a total of \$10,125.00. This does not include freight. Jeff will write a letter to the Glacier Electric board of directors expressing the Chamber's appreciation for the assistance GEC provides in hanging the Christmas lights and requesting GEC's assistance in hanging the new strings of LED street lights.

New Business:

Marla Embody suggested the Chamber make Welcome Baskets to give to new residents. These would include information concerning the City of Cut Bank, i.e., what organizations, shopping, and recreation Cut Bank has to offer. Jeff, Josh, Robert, Tippy, and Marilyn Dunk offered to be on the committee for this project.

The Visitor's Center will open May 23. Hours will be Monday-Friday; 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. and closed Sunday. Amy has hired the staff of four employees. Triangle Glass will replace the doors with commercial doors sometime this month. Mayor Doug Embody announced Diana Filban is now the City's Administrator of CTEP funds and projects. Amy Overstreet will remain as the Project Manager for the Chamber's two CTEP projects.

Discussion was held on getting merchandise to sell with the Chamber Logo on it such t-shirts, sweatshirt and carrying totes. Amy was given the go ahead to pursue this.

Jeff will continue to gather information on Glacier County's CTEP fund allocation for the Cut Bank area and whether those funds can be transferred to the City of Cut Bank to be used on their CTEP projects. Jeff suggested maybe Chamber board members and/or the Mayor attend a commissioner meeting letting them know we are interested in working together to enhance the City of Cut Bank and Glacier County.

Jeff will revisit with KRTV to do an advertisement promoting Cut Bank and report back to the Chamber board with the details and the costs.

The Wading Pool Project is underway. A splash pool has been designed to replace the existing wading pool. The Chamber has some concerns about the present design and expressed those to Mayor Embody, specifically that age of the children the splash park is being geared towards. Projection date for the splash pool's completion is set for July 4, 2009.

Visitor's Comments:

Mike Koepke said The First Impression tour will be May 21.

Chamber-Up After 5 will be Tuesday May 12 at the Art Studio with Dan & Sherry North.

Lunch 'n' Learn will be May 26 at the Cut Bank Golf Course with Joe Kiely speaking

Super Host Training will be May 27 at Glacier Electric 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Minimum of 15 people needed.

Block Party will May 15 & 16 at the Civic Center followed by a BBQ celebrating Billman's 30th Anniversary.

Bob Clary moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Robert Carette.

