

**POWELL COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Minutes are from the April 11th, 2013 meeting held at 12 noon at the Broken Arrow Steakhouse.

Those present: Bob Toole, Dave Williams, Julia Brewer, Marge Bloomquist, Darryl Barton, Patty Cowan and Heidi Rome.

Also present: Shirley Cortright, Betty Hadley and Michelle Wheatley.

Bob called the meeting to order at 12:07 pm

A motion to accept the minutes as presented for March was made by Patty and seconded by Marge. Motion carried.

- Secretary's Report – Dave announced that Chamber Membership currently stands at 81. Inquiries up 16 at 81, 36 Phone, 19 Emails and 26 office visits. Two visitor packs and exchange brochures mailed out in March. Website statistics were up, 70,339 hits (up 25,569), 37,074 page views (up 21,070) and 4,032 unique visitors (up 2,238). 339 pdf's downloaded (up 113). Statistics are greatly increased on previous month, maybe due to settling in with new host.

Dave attended the Governors Conference last month in Helena. Found it very useful, over 100 new registrants, over 400 in total, a higher number than for many years. Good contacts, interesting and useful seminars, and the new Governor Steve Bullock seemed to be very supportive of the tourism industry. Hostgator has made us an offer to extend our hosting from monthly to yearly, at greatly discounted prices. Currently \$9.95 pm, will be \$95.52 for 1 year (\$7.96 pm), \$171.84 for 2 years (\$7.16 pm) or \$228.96 for 3 years (\$6.36 pm). Dave recommended that we go with the three years at \$228.96. Julia made a motion to go with the three year deal, Patty seconded. Motion carried.

Dave has been contacted by Corey Plute from Butte, who runs 'Bounce off the wallz' a bouncy castle rental company. He would like to come and set up on Territorial Days. No cost to us, he has insurance and a 'Hold Harmless' form for parents to sign. How much would we charge him to come to our event? Discussion followed on where he could be located. Jim is pursuing a car parts section on Missouri.

Bob said Lewis Smith would like to reserve two spaces. Dave will speak with Lewis.

Patty made a motion for Dave to contact Corey and welcome him to our event at \$50 for as many units he wishes to bring. Darryl seconded. Motion carried.

Dave asked if the Chamber would like for a Chain Saw carving demonstration. Two spaces required, one for the demo and one to sell the carvings. Out of Milltown. Response from the board was positive. Dave to check to see if they have insurance.

A phone call from Mayor Mary Ann Frayley, who wanted to suggest that the Chamber considers giving Gene Hues (of DL Auto) an award this year. He has done 50 years and is retiring.

The Deer Lodge Conservation District are planning a different event for the Livestock Seminar next January. Instead of a banquet and auction, they are planning a family friendly live act at the Rialto.

Darryl asked if the Rialto had anything planned for Territorial Days. No-one knew of any events planned at this time.

- Main Street Flower Baskets – T passed on a message via Bob that everything is taken care of.

- Territorial Days – Bob handed around the two choices for the Top 20 award prizes, and also the choice of bags for the drivers. T wants to hold a meeting next week. Discussion followed. Darryl made a motion to choose the Auto Safety Kit (97-004XP), Heidi seconded. Motion carried 4 to 1. Dave will call T or Linda about the decision, and ask about shipping cost and delivery schedule on the bags. Julie made a motion to order 500 bags at 40c each, Heidi seconded. Motion passed.

- Demolition Derby – Patty said that some rules had been adjusted at the committee meeting two days ago, for the Drivers Safety. Double heats for the Herby, plus more money. Changed the Liability Release form, thanks to John Henderson for his suggestions. Changes will be highlighted in red. Includes a schedule of events, available on line as well as on the night. A map is also included on the Regulations. Main Event has the payment for 5th and 6th places removed, money goes to the Herby's. The only

possible problem may whether the Herby cars can make it through the Heat and Final?

The Registration Fee has been raised by \$5 to \$40 advance, \$45 on the day. Talking about sponsors for the Herby and Main Event finals.

- **Grant-Kohrs Ranch** – Michele said that a new superintendant for the ranch has been announced. Jacque Lavelle will be arriving on May 19th from Washington DC. Michelle leaves on May 3rd, back to Colorado. April 20th is Junior Ranger days. The Ranch now has an official Facebook page, linked from the main website. Starting a stream bank stabilization project, close to the bridge area. Ranch Tours start seven days a week on May 3rd.

- **Old Prison Museums** – Open for Spring Hours Monday through Sunday 10 am till 4 pm. On May 20th going to seven days a week, 8am till 6pm. All Museums open. Working on the Raggedy Ann and Andy exhibit. New exhibits in Frontier, new mining artifacts in Powell County Museum. The Old Prison was on Haunted Collectors, a SyFy TV show on March 20th. Generated a tremendous response, far more than when Ghost Lab featured the Old Prison. Powell County Museum staffed by volunteers, thanks to Betty. The Ice Cream Shop has been remodeled and will re-open as the Ice Cream Station on June 2nd.

- **Draft Horse Expo** – Wonderful, growing, changing the judging pattern this year. Doing good financially, with good support. Asking for a vendors place to sell raffle tickets at Territorial Days, inside a local store. Clyde, the horse statue, needs a visit to the beauty shop. Buttons required, Dave to check on the numbers we have and order some for the DHExpo if required. Betty asked for the Chamber members to come to the event this year.

- **Other Business** – Shirley asked about any news on J&J and Greany's. Still going, no real idea's on closure. Something going on in the old Radio Shack building. Bob said that 'On The Wall', a native American artist named Dan, has opened a new business in the old Solle Realty building on Missouri.

Patty made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Julia seconded. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 1:14 pm