

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

Minutes are from the February 2nd, 2012 meeting held at 12 noon at the Broken Arrow Steakhouse.

Those present: Bob Toole, Dave Williams, Patty Cowan, Julia Brewer, Marge Bloomquist, Jim Cameron, Cass Cahill, Darryl Barton, Tina Schowengerdt  
Also present: Donna Galbraith, Laura Rotegard

Bob called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

- **Adoption of Minutes** – A motion to adopt the minutes as presented was made by Patty, seconded by Jim. The motion was passed.

- **Secretary's Report** – Chamber Membership stands at 45 for 2012. Inquiries up by 17 at 47 total, 28 phone, 9 email and 10 office visits. Two visitor packs mailed out in January. Website statistics were 46,996 hits (up 388), 15,848 page views (down 136), 4,980 unique visitors (down 134) and 315 pdf/doc downloads (down 55).

Dave asked the board if they wished to go ahead with the Powell County High School Annual Yearbook full page ad for \$80. Patty made a motion that the Chamber continues with the \$80 ad for 2012, subject to Dave previewing and altering the ad as required. Seconded by Cass. Motion passed.

Dave had been contacted by Spring Hill Press about the Chamber advertising in the Butte Map Guide, which would cost \$400 for a small ad, linkable to our website from their online version. Discussion followed and it was agreed not to advertize in this publication.

- **Main Street Flower Baskets** – Cass had agreed to contact Lynette King at Eastside Greenhouse. Dave will let Cass know the basket cost from last year. Patty said we need to set an upper limit for the cost, no more than \$2,000. Bids need to be sent out, to Eastside and Circle H, which includes pruning and maintenance, and a cut off date for receiving the bid by end of February. Jim suggested approaching the FFA to grow some plants for the baskets. Jim will contact Bill Lombardi.

- **Territorial Days Committee** – T was unable to attend today but wishes to be involved in this years event, on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Those expressing a wish to be involved with the committee were Bob, Cass, Marge, Tina, Jim, Donna, Darryl, Patty and Julia.

- **Chambers Finances** – Patty has been asked by Bob to go into the office to go over the chamber finances with Dave so we know where the money is going. Patty set up the original finance system. Patty reminded the Board that any meeting that discusses finances needs to be a closed meeting according to Roberts Rules, Executive Board Members only. Patty said a new Budget needs to be set up. New costs have been incurred, and other costs have had major increases.

- **Missouri Ave Mural** – Ron Scharf joined the meeting to discuss the painting of the mural on the wall alongside the Corner Bar. His daughter Ruth will do the painting, with help from Jerid, and Ron will bring in a copy of the final artwork to our next meeting, together with the cost of the painting materials.

- **Grant-Kohrs Ranch** – Visitor numbers were up 19% for January at 31 people, but 2011 numbers were down 7% on 2010. Glacier numbers last year were also down, by 15%. The Ranch numbers tend to follow Glaciers. Website hits were up 200%, over 50,000 hits from October to December, and the Ranch will soon be on Facebook and Twitter. Dawn Kidwell will be leaving after 10 years with the Ranch. The Ranch is facing an 8 - 10% cut in funding for the year. The Fire and Security Project will start next month, which will mean that many of the major buildings will be closed for at least part of the season during installation of the new fire suppression and security system. Tours will be virtual, on video, probably out at the Dairy Barn. Wagon Rides will be available. More info will be provided later.

- **Old Montana Prison Museums** – Still closed until March 7<sup>th</sup>. New exhibits have been added to each Museum, currently setting up Summer Events. 100 people will be coming from Sweden for a family re-union over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend, visiting the Ranch and the Museums 4<sup>th</sup> July Firework Display. The Gun Show will be held over the last weekend in June. The National Geographic pilot series for the Diggers, filmed at the Museum, slated for March 6<sup>th</sup>, but Julia will let Dave know. Dave will be Julia's guest for next weeks Rotary meeting.

- **Other Business** – Julia made a motion to update the signature card for our two savings accounts at Peoples Bank, to include Bob Toole, Patty Cowan, Julia Brewer and David Williams. Motion seconded by Patty. Motion passed.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was proposed by Patty, seconded by Julia. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 1:04 p.m.