

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

Minutes are from the November 8th, 2013 meeting held at 12 noon at the Broken Arrow Steakhouse.

Those present: Bob Toole, Jim Cameron, Dave Williams, Linda Spaulding, Therese Hunt, Rocky Wozny and Patty Cowan.

Also present: Donna Galbraith and Shirley Cortright.

Bob called the meeting to order at 12:16 pm

A motion to accept the minutes as presented for October was made by Linda and seconded by T. Motion carried.

- **Secretary's Report** – Dave reported Chamber Membership currently stands at 89 for 2013, 4 renewals for 2014. Inquiries down 19 at 66 total, 30 Phone, 10 Emails and 26 office visits. One visitor pack and one relocation pack mailed out in October. Website statistics were similar to September, 49,544 hits (-239), 19,232 page views (-984), 4,113 unique visitors (+320) and 284 pdfs downloaded (-5).

Sherril Kraakmo from the Deer Lodge Development Group sent some info about a Tourism Assessment and Planning program on offer from the MT Office of Tourism. A 4-5 month self-help process to assess the current and future potential role of tourism in the community's economic and quality of life improvement. A community action committee would be required to be led by a team from the MTOT, Main Street MT and MSU Extension programs. Application to be returned by November 22. Dave will forward the info to Board Members to see if there is sufficient interest for the Chamber to get involved. Bob was skeptical that the time involved would bring any major benefits.

Deer Lodge Brochure re-printing. Last printing was for 50,000 in 2011 costing \$4,642 (50/50 split with GoldWest). Adverting brings in \$2,000, our cost is approx. \$300. Some changes required. Patty made a motion to go with 50,000 copies and \$200 per advertiser. Seconded by T. Motion carried.

The Montana Chamber is holding a Giving Thanks Tour event at the Pen on Wed. November 27<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. For all businesses, networking and door prizes. Dave to send info out on our blog the week before.

SouthWest MT has a new membership program, Chambers are now \$95 per year, but can recoup the cost, or get free membership next year, if they help recruit new members. \$10 for each new member, 5 new members gets a free membership next year. Also, the best Chamber (depends on recruiting and size of Chamber) will receive a free custom video or photo shoot in their community. Patty made a motion to re-join SWMT, Rocky seconded. Motion passed. Dave to explore the recruitment package.

- **Board of Directors** – Bob, T and Jim are standing for re-election. Several people have been approached to stand for election to the board. Steve Lunceford was suggested by Rocky, and he will ask him. Patty asked about someone from the Rialto board, but they are all tied up with work and other commitments.

- **Chamber Banquet** – Bob said everything is coming together, Father Bob Porter is on board to give the invocation. Trophies being picked up by Patty later today. Mike Batista and his party of three from the Dept. of Corrections. Keystone and Valley Foods have tickets at \$25. Dave will bring the 50/50 tickets, Jan will sell them with assistance. Bob has tickets for the Grizly game up for auction. Dave will re-send the blog about the Banquet to our subscribers.

- **Christmas Stroll** – T has spoken with Bob Martin and he and JR will put up the decorations and lights the week before the stroll. Bob ordered 15 x 20ft rope lights for the poles from ACE at \$9 a piece. Bob will take the clear bulbs we have to the City for JR to replace any blown bulbs. Posters are out, Rocky gave some to his distributors. Rocky spoke to Steve Owens and there are plans to show the DVD of 'Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street', Steve to confirm whether royalties are due and how much. Will be

shown after the events on Saturday at 7:30pm.

Next Stroll Committee meeting on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 pm at the Chamber Office.

Ellen Perry from the DL Art Club spoke to Dave about setting up easels to sell their artwork in one of the empty stores. The Elks would require \$150 to hire their hall for vendors on Saturday. Still waiting to hear back from J&J, Rocky to talk to Kirk about using the Chicken House. Patty said Lynn Johnson is looking for somewhere to set up her new range of products. Jim said that the Cutlers Theater may be available for vendor space. Velocity Tumbling may be bringing in vendors. Dave will get the Stroll Buttons in the stores next week, at the Prison Gift Shop, Keystone, Valley Foods, ACE and MRC. Dave will email the Christmas Cash list to Donna at 1<sup>st</sup> Security.

- **Job Service** – Shirley spoke about the minimum wage increase to \$7.90 from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2014. No new posters, just a printable label. Safety Workshop Program is next Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am in Anaconda. Can save money on Workers Comp. rates. One extra staff person is helping in the office.

Move to adjourn made by T. Meeting adjourned at 12:59 pm

Later that afternoon, T asked Dave to call Board Members for approval in making a payment of \$150 to hire the Elks Hall.

Dave called Bob, T, Linda, Rocky, Marge, Jim and Patty. All said yes. Heidi and Darryl were not available.