

# Gardiner Chamber of Commerce

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*The Gardiner Chamber of Commerce serves our community through developing local tourism while endorsing stewardship of the Yellowstone Ecosystem.*

Meeting date: **Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM**

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Purpose: Gardiner Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting of the Members

## Agenda:

### 1. Chamber Business

#### 1.1. Roll Call & Introductions

*Kelly Burns, Chelsea Deweese, Amanda Hagerty, Mike Keller, Sarah Ondrus, Alex Roberts, Mike Skelton, and Sabina Strauss. Excused: Debbie Mackey*

#### 1.2 Approval of Prior Month's Meeting Minutes

*Sabina Strauss made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 2021 board meeting. Sarah Ondrus seconded the motion. Minutes approved.*

### 2. Year in Review & Committee Business

#### 2.1 Year in Review – Terese Petcoff, Executive Director

Petcoff gave a speech highlighting the projects in 2021 that the small staff of the Chamber was able to accomplish. To summarize Petcoff spoke about the following achievements and what to look forward to in 2022:

- The new up-to-date dining guide on VisitGardinerMT.com
- The usage of QR codes in handouts provided to Chamber members
- Welcoming 90,918 travelers to the Visitor Center from May – October 2021
- Providing public restroom advertising to Chamber members as a new service
- Increasing VisitGardinerMT.com user traffic by 29% year over year
- Increasing social media followers during 2021: Facebook growth by 9.5% & Instagram growth by 23%
- Commitment to new Recreate Responsibly messaging
- Ending 2021 with 160 Gardiner Chamber of Commerce members
- The Chamber received a new roof due to wind damage sustained at the beginning of the year
- Upcoming Yellowstone 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary

#### 2.2 Treasure Report – Mike Keller

Keller spoke to the Chamber and CVB's financial standing at the close of 2021. He stated the CVB Account had a balance of \$59,976.46 an improvement of \$1,400 year over year; the main Savings Account had a

balance of \$7,177.43; finally, the Main Checking Account had a balance of \$103,527.78. He highlighted that the savings account has only gained .84 of interest throughout 2021. Keller recommended further discussion regarding the funds to garnish more returns.

He stated that year over year this is a net downturn of about \$8,000 and that the majority of this was caused by wage increases and offering a Simple IRA to employees – both items he was in full support of. However, this is an improvement of \$18,000 over 2020 because in 2020 many members were unable to or delayed in paying their dues due to circumstances at hand; in 2021 this was able to be corrected.

Petcoff added that in addition to membership dues it is important to remember that the 2021 Fiscal Year was based, in part, on Resort Tax collections from 2020 which were historically low due to the pandemic.

## **2.2 Nominating Committee**

Skelton began by explaining how the process would work in voting for Board of Directors candidates for 2022. As it stood, the number of vacant seats was equal to the number of candidates running. That if there were no nominations from the floor there could be a motion to elect the current slate of candidates by acclamation.

He continued by thanking the two outgoing board members: Alex Roberts for her years of service, Kelly Burns for years of service on the Board of Directors, and Ms. Burns' commitment to the CVB Committee.

Each of the following candidates gave a brief speech as to why they were running for a vacant seat or seeking reelection. However, Trina Smith was not present due to an emergency – Petcoff presented on her behalf.

Candidates Running for Vacant Board Seat: Billie Taylor and Trina Smith  
Candidates Running for Second Term: Sarah Ondrus (current Vice President)  
Candidates Running for Third Term: Mike Keller (current Treasure)

Skelton asked if there were any nominations from the floor, there were no nominations. He asked for a motion to elect the above slate of candidates by acclamation. *Amanda Hagerty made the motion to elect the slate of candidates. Sabina Strauss seconded. Motion passed without discussion, all members were in favor.*

## **4. Vote Tally**

### *New Board Members Announced*

The newly elected and re-elected board members for the Gardiner Chamber of Commerce for 2022 are Billie Taylor, Trina Smith, Sarah Ondrus, and Mike Keller.

Skelton explained that the new board would now move into Executive Session to appoint the Executive Committee for 2022. Virtual attendees would be moved to the waiting room during that decision and be readmitted once a decision was made.

## **5. Meeting Adjourns**

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Meeting date: **Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Purpose: First Meeting of the 2022 Board of Directors

## **1. Chamber Business**

### **1.1 Roll Call**

*Chelsea Deweese, Amanda Hagerty, Mike Keller, Sarah Ondrus, Mike Skelton, Sabina Strauss, and Billie Taylor. Excused: Debbie Mackey and Trina Smith*

### **1.2 Resolutions**

Skelton stated that a unanimous motion was made and passed for the Executive Committee of Mike Skelton – President, Sarah Ondrus – Vice President, and Mike Keller – Treasure.

## **2. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

*Meeting adjourns.*

**3. Date of Next Meeting** Thursday, February 17, 2022, @ 12 PM