

Gardiner Chamber of Commerce

Meeting date: **Wednesday, February 15, 2012** **Started: 12:03 PM** **Ended: 1:10 PM**

Location: Community Center Board Room

Purpose/Notes: Regular scheduled meeting

Chaired by: Daniel Bierschwale

Minutes rec. by: Gardiner Chamber

Attendance:

Present: Bear Lair Lodge, Bill Berg, Daniel Bierschwale, Big Wild Adventures, Cabin By The River, Gardiner Chamber, Chuck Curtis, Gardiner Therapeutic, Greater Gardiner Community Council, Home On The Range, Cheryl Hoppe, Gina Knight, Rocky Mountain RV Park&Lodging LLC, Barbara Shesky, Sabina Strauss, The Silvertip, Wild West Vacations and Travel, Yellowstone Association, Yellowstone Country, Yellowstone Federal Credit Union

Regrets:

Absent: Above the Rest Lodge, Absaroka Knoll Construction, Absaroka Lodge, Adventure Yellowstone Inc, Elizabeth Baker, CCC Salon, Child Care Connections, Comfort Inn-Yellowstone North, Crevice Mountain Lodge, Diamond Bar Heart Guest Ranch, Diamond Heart Guest Ranch, E.L.K., Inc, Elk River Art Gallery and Studio, Elk River Lodge, Entre Nous, ERA Landmark Western Land, Family Massage Care, Flying Pig Camp Store and Rafting, Gardiner Laundry, Gardiner Pharmacy/Yellowstone Perk, Gateway Hose Company, Gold Strike Gifts, Graybeal's All Service, Gail Habener, Headwaters of the Yellowstone B&B, Hell's A Roarin' Outfitters, Hillcrest Cottages, Anna Holloway, Johnstad's B&B and Log Cabin, Kim Kaiser, Kellem's Montana Saddlery, Kremer's Cenex, Chris Lyness, MacNeil Lyons, Medcor Inc at Yellowstone, Montana Buffalo Company, Montana Whitewater Rafting&Zipline, Mountain Mobile Auto Glass, North Entrance Washtub, Outwest T's, Richard Parks, Riverside Cottages, Smith Family Ranch, Stafford Animal Shelter, Story Distributing, The Town Cafe, The Wildside Tours and Treks, Upper Yellowstone Roundup Assoc., Ker'en Walters, Wild West Rafting, Xanterra, Yellowstone Gallery & Frameworks, Yellowstone Gateway Inn, Yellowstone General Stores, Yellowstone Mine, Yellowstone Park Riverfront Cabins, Yellowstone Park Travel Lodge, Yellowstone River Motel, Yellowstone Suites B&B, Yellowstone Super 8 Motel, Yellowstone Wilderness Outfitters, Yellowstone Yoga

Late: North Entrance Shopping - Food Farm

Guests:

(none)

Meeting Documents:

(no documents)

Meeting Minutes:

1. Chamber Business

1.1. Call to Order

Daniel Bierschwale

Status: Completed

1.2. Roll Call & Introductions

Barbara Shesky

Daniel Bierschwale

Anna Holloway

Cheryl Hoppe

Chuck Curtis

Sabina Strauss

Gina Knight

MacNeil Lyons

Scott Demaree

Danny Bierschwale, Chuck Curtis, Sabina Strauss, Gina Night-present. Anna Holloway, McNeil Lyons, Ker'en Walters-excused, Scott Demaree-late.

Status: Completed

1.3. Treasurer's Report

Barbara Shesky

Review of treasurer's report and 2012 budget

The accounts are pretty much on track a little more than what was in them last year, except for the newsletter account, which had more \$ in it going into 2011 than what we did coming into 2012.

Status: Completed

1.3.1. 2012 Budget

Barbara Shesky

Budget numbers reviewed, basically the same as prior years. All in favor motion carried.

Resolution #: 021512-1

Moved by: Chuck Curtis

Seconded by: Sabina Strauss

Status: Carried

Vote: All in favor

1.4. Secretary's Report

Barbara Shesky

Newsletter deposits higher this year so far. But, board cautioned to remember that people will come in and prepay sometimes up to \$300.00 for newsletter ads so that # is a false increase whereas it should be spread over a span of time.

Clarification on how be tracking calls emails and such, Basically track everything even if it is a junk email because the Secretary has to spend time reviewing it to see if it is junk.

North entrance numbers are still up.

Status: Completed

2. Old business

2.1. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

Daniel Bierschwale

January 25th

February 6th

Approval of past meeting minutes sought. No discussion. All in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #: 021512-2

Moved by: Chuck Curtis

Seconded by: Gina Knight

Status: Carried

Vote: All in favor

2.2. Governor's Conference

Daniel Bierschwale

We have been given Xanterra's booth space free of charge at the Montana Governor's Conference. We need to decide who will be attending. April 11-13th in Great Falls.

Executive Director Ker'en Walters and Administrative Secretary Barbara Shesky will be attending the Governor's conference.

Status: Completed

2.3. Bylaw Revision Oversight

Barbara Shesky

There was an oversight when making the proposed changes to the bylaws on February 6th. In Article 5, Section 1 the number of board members was changed to allow up to nine (9) directors. Due to this change, the last sentence in Article 5, Section 1 should be adjusted to reflect this by stating: Fifty-one percent (51%) of the Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

Motion to approve the adjustment in Article 5 Section 1 of our bylaws. No Discussion. All in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #: 021512-3

Moved by: North Entrance Shopping - Food Farm

Seconded by: Sabina Strauss

Status: Carried

Vote: All in favor

3. New business

3.1. Resort Tax Research

Daniel Bierschwale

Educating the Chamber and the town on the meaning and implications of a resort tax in the town of Gardiner

MSU Extension Office offers seminars to educate towns, citizens and businesses on the ins and outs of resort tax. Rock Mountain RC&D mailers can be done and then a conference.

Also, brought up having some one come from Ennis to share why they enacted a resort tax and then got rid of it.

The extension office is thinking about sending out the mailers in mid-March and having a public education session on a Friday night and Saturday afternoon.

The board would like to be educated before they try to "educate" others, so they will need some brochures and such to all review.

Status: Completed

3.2. Bear Awareness Gardiner

Barbara Shesky

B.A.G. is asking the Chamber for an advertising sponsorship in 2012 to promote Bear Awareness and the distribution of Bear Proof Garbage cans free of charge to anyone who needs one in the Gardiner/Jardine Area.

Resolution # 021512-4 Motion to approve sponsorship Sabina Strauss, Scott Demaree-second. Discussed how the value of the ads is (\$480.00). As our bylaws state "with respect to the natural environment" bearproofs for all, free of charge falls within those parameters and B.A.G. identifies us as a sponsor so those two things balance out the lost dollars.

All in favor, Motion Carried.

Status: Completed

4. Committee Business

4.1. Rodeo Club

Upper Yellowstone Roundup
Assoc.

Progress Report

No report

Status: Completed

4.2. Yellowstone Country

Daniel Bierschwale

Grant opportunities

No report

Status: Completed

4.3. Yellowstone National Park

Park Updates from Brian Suderman

No report

Status: Completed

4.4. Marketing

Barbara Shesky

Presentation of opportunity for chamber members only to advertise, at a discounted rate in Montana Quarterly for Summer and Fall issues

We have enough businesses to do a full page in Montna Quarterly if we can get 6 more businesses on board the rate will be around \$160.00 per business- for the summer issue and then again in the late summer for the fall issue (if we do the Double truck both times).

Status: Completed

4.5. Public Restrooms and CVB

Chuck Curtis

Initial stages of research into the addition of a public restroom for the town as well as the possibility of forming a Convention and Visitors Beureau

no report

Status: Completed

4.6. Business District

North Entrance Shopping -
Food Farm

Initial stages of research into formation of a business district that runs along Park street, Main Street and down Hwy 89

No report

Status: Completed

4.7. Gateway Cooperatives/Partnerships

MacNeil Lyons

Developing relations for marketing strategies with the communities of Cooke City, Livingston, West Yellowstone, and possibly Big Sky and Bozeman

Danny will be attending a meeting with the Montana Office of Tourism about the Gateway Project and the 2016 Anneversary of the Park Service

Status: Completed

4.8. Public Comment

Gardiner Chamber

Questions and Commnet period from the floor

Continuation of discussion about educating ourselves on resort tax and concerns that we get both sides of the story and what regular people think about resort tax and how it ahs impacted them.

Status: Completed

4.9. Date Next Meeting

Gardiner Chamber

March 21st, 2012

Status: Completed

Total time scheduled: 60 min

Recording Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:
