



Gardiner Chamber of Commerce

Meeting date: **Thursday, March 21, 2013** Started: **12:00 PM** Ended: **1:00 PM**

Location: Upstairs at the Grocery Store

Purpose/Notes: Regular scheduled meeting

Chaired by: Daniel Bierschwale

Minutes rec. by: Gardiner Chamber

Attendance:

Present: Sandy Bierle, Daniel Bierschwale, Gardiner Chamber, Scott Demaree, Anna Holloway, Cheryl Hoppe, Livingston Job Service, MacNeil Lyons, Jean Modesette, Richard Parks, Barbara Shesky, Brian Suderman

Regrets: Gina Knight

Absent: "Be Our Guest " House, Above the Rest Lodge, Absaroka Knoll Construction, Absaroka Lodge, B Bar Ranch, B Wood Photography, Bear Lair Lodge, Bill Berg, Best Western By Mammoth Hotsprings, Big Wild Adventures, Cabin By The River, Child Care Connections, Clear Lines Writing Consulting, Comfort Inn- Yellowstone North, Crevice Mountain Lodge, Diamond Bar Heart Guest Ranch, Elk River Art Gallery and Studio, Elk River Lodge, Entre Nous, ERA Landmark Western Land, Family Massage Care, Feathers in Flight, Gardiner Laundry, Gardiner Pharmacy/Yellowstone Perk, Gateway Hose Company, Gold Strike Gifts, Graybeal's All Service, Greater Gardiner Community Council, Hell's A Roarin' Outfitters, Hillcrest Cottages, Johnstad's B&B and Log Cabin, Kellem's Montana Saddlery, Kremer's Cenex, Little People's Learning Center, Chris Lyness, Medcor Inc at Yellowstone, Midwest Welding and Machine, Montana Buffalo Company, Montana Whitewater Rafting&Zipline, Mountain Mobile Auto Glass, National Wolf Watchers Coalition, North Entrance Vacation Rental, North Entrance Washtub, NorthWestern Energy, Paradise Adventure Company, Paradise Gateway B&B & Vacation , Photos by Sandi, Rainbow Ark, Riversbend Lodge, Riverside Cottages, Rocky Mountain RV Park, Smith Family Ranch, Stafford Animal Shelter, Stonegate Chiropractics, Story Distributing, Subway, The Wildside Tours and Treks, Two Bit, Upper Yellowstone Roundup Assoc., Wild Bear Adventures, Wilderness Connection, Wolf Ridge Lamb & Wool Company, Xanterra, Yellowstone Association, Yellowstone Basin Inn, Yellowstone Country, Yellowstone Federal Credit Union, Yellowstone Gallery & Frameworks, Yellowstone Gateway Inn, Yellowstone General Stores, Yellowstone Mine, Yellowstone Park Travel Lodge, Yellowstone Raft Company, Yellowstone River Motel, Yellowstone Suites B&B, Yellowstone Super 8 Motel, Yellowstone Village Inn, Yellowstone Wilderness Outfitters

Late:

Guests:

Katrina Hecimovic (present)

Meeting Documents:

(no documents)

Meeting Minutes:

1. Chamber Business

1.1. Roll Call & Introductions

Barbara Shesky

Daniel Bierschwale
Richard Parks
Anna Holloway
Gina Knight
Scott Demaree
Sandy Bierle
Cheryl Hoppe
MacNeil Lyons
Jean Modesette



Minutes:

All present except Gina Knight who was excused

Status: Completed

1.2. Treasurer's Report

Cheryl Hoppe

Chamber Financial update

Minutes:

Our accounts look good, overall we have more money than last year. Cheryl will investigate the CD assets of the Chamber .

Status: Completed

1.3. Director's Report

Barbara Shesky

Update on office, and what was traditionally known as the "Secretary's report"

Minutes:

The current Articles of Incorporation were approved but an additional change was realized in February: In regards to changing the Articles of incorporation wording to match our bylaws by removing the word "civic". This will need to be done by a member inclusive vote. Barbara will advertise it in the newsletter and send an email to the membership at least two weeks prior to the meeting when the vote will take place. We will take the vote on this at the April meeting.

Policy and Procedures manual has had some additional updates and revisions done and as soon as Barbara has a chance to review it she will send it to the Board in advance of a vote for approval.

Newsletter revenue continues to lag behind last year's revenue, theorized to be in part due to the number of members actually utilizing their newsletter ad fund that is included with their membership and also due to the fact that this is not an election year.

Barbara did some research and figured out how to track website visitation. for the year 2012 we had 104,402 visits as compared to 100,760 in 2011. We are up by several thousand for the months of January and February 2013 as compared to 2012. So the website is working.

Since Gina was unable to attend Barbara also gave the membership report to date at the time of the meeting we had 125 members as compared to 127 for 2012. Membership loss has primarily been due to business closings.

Barbara is planning to take a much needed vacation during May. The Board will cover the office and Sandy Bierle will create and distribute the newsletter that week.

Status: Completed

1.4. Approval of Last Month's Meeting Minutes

Daniel Bierschwale

Minutes:

minutes approved

Resolution #: 032113-01

Moved by: Jean Modesette

Seconded by: MacNeil Lyons

Status: Carried

Vote:

2. Old business

2.1. Policies and Procedures Manual

Barbara Shesky

A new Policies and Procedures Manual was handed out for review 3 months ago,2 month's ago, revisions were requested. Additional revisions are needed before this document can be signed.

Minutes:

See Director's report

Resolution #:

Status: Parked



3. New business

No New business

4. Committee Business

4.1. Yellowstone National Park

Brian Suderman

Minutes:

An update on YNP visitation-gate numbers were up for the month of February, we had 16,393 as compared to 13,919 in February 2012. The Historic North Entrance Inventory has been completed and Brian will bring a copy by the office.

Status: Completed

4.2. Marketing

Jean Modesette

Minutes:

The spring edition of Montana Quarterly is out we have a double truck spread in this issue again this year.

Status: Completed

4.3. Gateway Cooperatives & Partnerships

Jean Modesette

Update on the progress of the Northern Range Project Cooperative with Cooke City- Silvergate- Colter Pass Chamber of Commerce

Minutes:

The Northern Range project is coming along nicely, we have the mockup for the logo and will soon begin talks with tdg on website development. We were awarded an \$8,000 E-marketing grant to cover this portion of the project.

Status: Completed

4.4. Gardiner Gateway Project

Katrina Hecimovic

Update from our Transportation Scholar regarding the Gardiner Gateway Project and lighting on Hwy 89

Minutes:

Katrina Hecimovic gave a brief update on the FLAP grant and is also looking at whether the Chamber or the Community Council would like to take on the Hwy 89 lighting project, at this time the Chamber declined taking on this project as our plate is full, so it will be handed off to the Community Council.

Status: Completed

4.4.1. Governor's Conference

Daniel Bierschwale

Minutes:

We will be attending the Governor's Conference in March in Helena, Barbara, Danny and Jean will be attending. We are in the running for the Partnership of the year award and Danny and Bill Berg will be giving a project overview at the conference.

Status: Completed

4.5. Resort Tax and Gardiner Welcome Center

Richard Parks

Update from RT committee

Minutes:

The Resort Tax committee continues to meet and is making very good progress on the development of the petition and contacting the appropriate entities to understand the proper procedures for presentation to the County Attorney and the County Clerk. Ahead of schedule for the May presentation to the Board of Directors.

Status: Completed



Anna Holloway

4.6. Events

Update on Yellowstone Gardiner Stampede, Brewfest in the Park and Cycle Greater Yellowstone

Minutes:

Everything is on track for the events, Anna has been advertising them on every free site that she can find. She is maintaining contact with Sherrie from Cycle Greater Yellowstone and has already gotten commitments for volunteers.

Status: Completed

Gina Knight

4.7. Membership Committee

Update on membership retention and new memberships

Minutes:

See Director's report

Status: Completed

Gardiner Chamber

4.8. Public Comment

Minutes:

Scott and Rebecca provided refreshments and presented free, reusable, cold storage grocery bags with the new logo of the Gardiner Market on them to all the attendees of the meeting.

Status: Completed

Gardiner Chamber

4.9. Date Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held Thursday, April 18th at noon at the Gardiner Market

Status: Completed

Recording Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:
