



Gardiner Chamber of Commerce

Meeting date: **Thursday, May 16, 2013** Started: **12:00 PM** Ended: **1:00 PM**

Location: Upstairs at the Gardiner Market

Purpose/Notes: Regular scheduled meeting

Chaired by: Daniel Bierschwale

Minutes rec. by: Gardiner Chamber

Attendance:

Present: Gardiner Market, Bill Berg, Daniel Bierschwale, Gardiner Chamber, Scott Demaree, Greater Gardiner Community Council, Anna Holloway, Gina Knight, Livingston Job Service, Jean Modesette, Paradise Adventure Company, Richard Parks, Barbara Shesky, Yellowstone Association, Yellowstone Basin Inn

Regrets:

Absent: Upper Yellowstone River R, Wildflour Bakery, Yellowstone Grill, "Be Our Guest " House, Above the Rest Lodge, Absaroka Knoll Construction, Absaroka Lodge, B Bar Ranch, B Wood Photography, Bear Lair Lodge, Best Western By Mammoth Hotsprings, Sandy Bierle, 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, Hell's A Roarin' Outfitters, Hillcrest Cottages, Cheryl Hoppe, Johnstad's B&B and Log Cabin, Kellem's Montana Saddlery, Kremer's Cenex, Little People's Learning Center, Chris Lyness, MacNeil Lyons, 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 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, Brian Suderman, The Wildside Tours and Treks, Two Bit, Upper Yellowstone Roundup Assoc., Wild Bear Adventures, Wilderness Connection, Wolf Ridge Lamb & Wool Company, Xanterra, 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:

(none)

Meeting Documents:

(no documents)

Meeting Minutes:

1. Chamber Business

1.1. Roll Call & Introductions

Daniel Bierschwale

Daniel Bierschwale

Richard Parks

Anna Holloway

Gina Knight

Scott Demaree

Sandy Bierle

Cheryl Hoppe



MacNeil Lyons
Jean Modesette

Minutes:

Sandy Bierle, Barbara Shesky, Cheryl Hoppe, and MacNeil Lyons were excused.

Report:

Status: Deferred: 6/27/2013

1.2. Treasurer's Report

Cheryl Hoppe

Status: Completed

1.3. Director's Report

Anna Holloway

Anna will give the Director's report and update on the office as Barbara is on vacation this week.

Minutes:

Phone calls, emails, and walk-ins are up from last month. Website hits are up by 1,500.

Report:

Status: Completed

1.4. Approval of the last month's meeting minutes

Daniel Bierschwale

Minutes:

Danny Bierschwale asked that approval of the April, 2013 meeting minutes be postponed until the June 27, 2013 meeting because he wants to review the minutes in depth on resort tax.

Resolution #:

Status: Deferred: 6/27/2013

Report:

2. Old business

No Old business

3. New business

No New business

4. Committee Business

4.1. Properties and Facilities

Gardiner Chamber

Review/approval of drafted lease proposal to be presented to the Community Center.

Update regarding Property Inspections and Appraisals for the Eagle's Hall and the Rodeo Grounds.

Minutes:

Due to MacNeil Lyons being excused, this topic will be discussed at the June 27, 2013 meeting.

Resolution #:

Status: Carried

Vote:

Report:



Brian Suderman

4.2. Yellowstone National Park

Minutes:

Brian Suderman was not in attendance.

Status: Completed

4.3. Marketing

Jean Modesette

Minutes:

1) Jean reported that the Montana Governor's Conference on Tourism was held March 24-26, 2013. Danny, Barb, and Jean attended the event, tourism workshops, and made great networking connections with other tourism partners. 2) Jean also reported that she arranged for representatives from the Montana Office of Tourism and Yellowstone Country to tour Park County the first week of May, 2013. During the tour, MTOT posted live updates and photos to their Facebook and Twitter accounts to promote our local area and tourism. MTOT also hosted a one-day workshop focusing on expanding tourism for local business owners during this week at Chico Hot Springs Resort, which was well attended and received great reviews. 3) The Gardiner Chamber Facebook page has seen an increase of 210 fans since last month.

Status: Completed

4.4. Gateway Cooperatives & Partnerships

Jean Modesette

Update on the Northern Range Project Cooperative with Cooke City Silvergate Colter Pass chamber.

Minutes:

1) Jean Modesette and Donna Rowland, Executive Director of the Cooke City Chamber, completed and submitted a grant application on May 15, 2013 to the Montana Film Office for partial funding of a Yellowstone's Northern Range promotional video, which will highlight both Gardiner and Cooke City as year-round destinations. 2) The Yellowstone's Northern Range logo was finalized and approved by the committee. 3) Jean, Donna, and Barb have now been working on finalizing the Northern Range rack card. 4) TDG Communications has started the layout for the new Yellowstone's Northern Range website.

Report:

Status: Completed

4.5. Resort tax, Public Restrooms and Gardiner Welcome Center

Richard Parks

Minutes:

Richard Parks reported that they are in the final stages of having the Resort Tax petition approved by an attorney. The Resort Tax Committee needs to provide a map of the water district boundaries.

Report:

Status: Completed

4.6. Events

Status: Completed

4.6.1. Brewfest in the Park

Gardiner Chamber

Minutes:

Anna Holloway stated that Brewfest plans are going great and several new brewers will be at the event. There has been great interest from crafters and vendors. Anna is seeking local hotel room donations for the brewers in attendance.

Status: Completed



4.6.2. Yellowstone Gardiner Stampede

Gardiner Chamber

Minutes:

Anna is waiting to hear from the Park Service on approving the route for the Stampede.

Status: Completed

4.6.3. Cycle Greater Yellowstone

Gardiner Chamber

Minutes:

Anna Holloway stated that reps completed a site visit in Gardiner. Currently there are 680 participants registered, but they are hoping for 800. The Cycle Greater Yellowstone reps are looking for local guides that could provide tourist-related info to riders on the bus as they are transported through Yellowstone to Cooke City. A stipend would be provided for these guides.

Status: Completed

4.7. Public Comment

Gardiner Chamber

Minutes:

1) Sabina Strauss (Yellowstone Basin Inn) questioned the Chamber Board about forming a Gardiner/Rancher/Tourism Working Group to discuss wildlife issues/management (due to recent wolf issues). Sabina asked, "Can the Chamber sponsor a working group or sponsor a facilitator?" Scott Demaree agreed that it does fall within the Chamber's responsibilities. Danny Bierschwale feels that the Chamber should not take a stand as this could negatively impact the Chamber organization. Richard Parks felt that this would take a lot of legwork and that there have been forums repeatedly for public education, but they do not produce the results we are hoping for. Richard stated that we may have to "roll with the punches." Sabina responded that she feels the Chamber may look complacent. 2) Bill Berg reported that the Greater Gardiner Community Council sponsored a school board candidate forum. GGCC received funding for community enhancement projects, which would include completing a sidewalk to the rodeo grounds.

Report:

Status: Completed

4.8. Date Next Meeting

Daniel Bierschwale

The next meeting of the Gardiner Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors will be at 6pm, Thursday, June 20, 2013, upstairs at the Gardiner Market.

Minutes:

Danny Bierschwale proposed to change the next Chamber meeting from June 20th to June 27th, 2013 at 6:00p.m. Meeting location: Upstairs at the Gardiner Market. The Chamber Board of Directors agreed.

Report:

Status: Completed

Recording Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:
