



Gardiner Chamber of Commerce

Meeting date: Thursday, February 19, 2015 Started: 12:00 PM Ended: 1:18 PM

Location: Gardiner Visitor's Center

Purpose/Notes: Regular scheduled meeting

Chaired by: Daniel Bierschwale

Minutes recorded by: Executive Director: Barbara Shesky

Meeting Documents: See Binder in Chamber Office During Business Hours

Meeting Minutes:

1. Chamber Business

1.1. Roll Call & Introductions

Daniel Bierschwale

Daniel Bierschwale, Hal Broadhead, Frankie Aars, Scott Demaree Sandy Bierle, Cheryl Hoppe, Schalene Darr, Jean Modesette and Sabina Strauss.

Schalene Darr and Frankie Aars excused. All others present. Quorum present.

Status: Completed

1.2. Director's Report

Barbara Shesky

Update on Office Operations

Endorsement request by the Greater Yellowstone Coalition~ The Wild & Scenic Rivers Act as it pertains to the Yellowstone River from Confluence Park to Yankee Jim Canyon.

Sabina feels that we should consider this proposal.

Danny- Do they want a letter or to have a public meeting? Hand out pamphlets? They need legislative support.

Hal will we be into advocacy as a group? What exactly are they looking for? Conceptually seems like a good effort.

Barb will contact Charles Drimal to get more information on what they mean by "endorse" and pass it along to the Board.



The move into our new building is going smoothly. There is a lot of unpacking to do, but we will get it done.

Status: Deferred: 3/19/2015

1.3. Treasurer's Report

Cheryl Hoppe

Update on Chamber's financial status this report may be given by the Executive Director as needed. The Board reviews the financial stats for the month. No questions.

Status: Completed

1.4. Approval of prior month's meeting minutes

Daniel Bierschwale

Hal Broadhead- Motion to approve last month's meeting minutes. Sabina Strauss seconds the motion. Discussion:none.

Resolution #: 20150219-01

Status: Carried

Vote: All in favor

2. Old business

2.1. Update on Sheriff's Office

Daniel Bierschwale

This discussion will be led by Dennis McIntosh and Danny Bierschwale

Last month we had the sheriff's office and Dennis McIntosh give a presentation to the Chamber Board of Directors; this is a follow-up.

Dennis passes around a handout of the Rodeo grounds.

We are working with you to carve off a piece of the rodeo grounds for a sheriff's office and the water District office. A piece was carved out for the Gateway Hose Company approximately a number of years ago. 1 acre- they would like a piece to the west of the piece already carved out. but it is not really usable it is almost too small -can't build under the power lines- all the room that we have that is usable is on the other side (east).

This is not an official ask at this moment; we want a piece for a shared use facility anywhere from ¾-1 acre roughly the same shape as the Gateway Hose piece.

120 ft.X140 ft. is the Gateway Hose Company lot size.

We have not vetted this idea with anyone. This is an estimate of what they are looking for, this is all conceptual. There is a lot to make this actually happen.



What would the adverse effects be for the rodeo?

There is actually a lot of usable space if the ground was leveled and cleaned up. With the current use at the max this would remove about 80 spots without doing any ground work more likely 30-40 spaces if the parking is unregulated, which it is.

Would we need a subdivision process? To have it exchange hands completely- if it was going to the Hose Company probably not- we have to figure out the details.

We would like to work through this as a structured project now. Create a memorandum of understanding and spokespeople from each group: GGCC, Chamber, Sheriffs, and Park County Water District- basically we would have a document saying we will work together.

Parks Frady- Park County Planning Office: If the decision were to be made to move forward, yes, it would need a memorandum and for us to pool our resources with the Water District as well, we have identified some resources but they are not satisfactory.

SO an MOU with a couple reps from each entity and then have the documents pass before any Boards or the commissioners as necessary.

A draft could be ready for a review of the MOU next month.

The mechanism of transfer- it is a tricky thing to do- it would require subdivision review to change hands does not preclude creating a lease and/or easement. We would need funds for a subdivision review.

Is the MOU going to define the ask?

Yes- the subcommittee needs to be set up.

Dennis asks the Board if there are one or two people that can be assigned to work with the GGCC and the Sheriff Etc.-

Scott- we need to discuss this as a Board.

Danny- we have a properties and facilities committee- Scott and Schalene should be the reps from the Chamber.

The water district is losing the space they have on Park St because it is in YNP. The Sheriff a spot to interview people and to put the car.

The space being asked for is more than what we originally thought it was going to be.

Scott, Schalene and maybe Danny and Sabina can go ahead and start into the conversation.

Status: Deferred: 3/19/2015



3. New business

3.1. Member letter

Daniel Bierschwale

Discussion of a letter we received from a member

We received another letter from Joe Gross- Is there anything that we want to do about this?

Danny – do we want to consider revoking his membership? We need to have this in a full Board meeting we need to have everyone have a copy. We will table this until everyone has read it so tabled till the next meeting.

Status: Deferred: 3/19/2015

3.2. Gardiner Housing Task Force

Daniel Bierschwale

Gardiner's Housing Crisis

Dennis McIntosh: A task force has been created working with HRDC and Katie Weaver from Chamber member MSU Extensions. Purpose: Researching what is causing the housing crunch.

They sent out a list of questions to businesses, they are now sending a list of housing questions to residents. What is needed?

Working towards a May deadline of having all this info compiled. There will be an inventory of available and unavailable property options for funds. This is a needs assessment a lot of surrounding communities have gone through this process.

Danny Please stay tuned - this will help the community.

Status: Completed

3.3. County Updates

Daniel Bierschwale

Updates from Parks Frady and Marty Malone Park County Commissioner

Marty Malone is here today to give an update on the status of the Trash Compactor that is to be placed down by the green boxes near the Gardiner Airport.

It is coming soon. Do you want a manned station- what hours? There will be a bear proof fence, the fence will also cut down on blowables.

Sabina Strauss- Will it cut down on the birds too? Marty-Yes.

Sandy Bierle – What will the hours be?

Marty- we want to know what hours Gardiner wants. This is going to be a manned station so it will have to have hours. Unmanned didn't work because of the airport. So 8-5 or 7-4; 7 days a week or 5 days?

Scott- 5 days won't work- I'd need to buy a semi to store it in over the weekend



Parks Frady- Perhaps, summer and winter hours?

Initially, when we get the compactor in place, we will leave the walk-in gate open then start to look at changing attendant hours if there is a lot of trash left after hours.

Parks- we want it to be open when businesses need it.

Scott we have a place to keep overnight and like the compactor but the access from the get-go and even right now isn't good enough when your roll in at 10 till 4 and he (The attendant) says no it'll take more than ten minutes to unload. I guess I don't have a lot of trust...

Danny – I think this is their effort to try and work with us.

Marty- There will be roll offs for metal, cardboard and glass.

Danny- Question to the audience: Any public input?

Judy- Super 8- The hours are bit difficult- we had a lot that needed to go in the roll off and it hasn't been pleasant with that employee-

Scott- the employee has threatened his (Scott's) young employees and if it happens again there will be liability.

Marty- thank you for letting me know.

7 days a week seems to be what we need/ want to have the ability to change hours as needed we are hoping to expand our tourism winter/shoulder seasons as well.

When will the new compactor arrive-? Within the month.

So it sounds like 7 day access is what needs to happen and then if you come to the May meeting we can advertise for public input after it has been in place a bit.

Barbara Reed- will the recycling be put behind the fence – yes

Scott how much of an issue are the bears?

Marty – With the walk-in aspect; the problem is people put a rock in front of it and keep it open. If they would just shut it-- if you see it open shut it. We have to be in line with the endangered species act.

Status: Completed

4. Committee Business

4.1. Yellowstone National Park

Brian Suderman

Update on YNP

With the warm weather around Mammoth and lower elevations the snow travel conditions are poor. Blacktail and Tower are holding on but we don't know for how long—



Cooke city—is good. From West to OFI it has gone to wheeled vehicles. Snowmobiles are staging at Madison. The lottery winners are just canceled now. From the north here

everything still can be accessed. From Mammoth to Golden gate is a lot of bare patches. You can get to OFI but you have to go around via Canyon.

The non-commercially guided snowmobile program has worked pretty well there have been a few rough spots but people are happy to have it in the winter use.

Summer road construction will be the same two; Mammoth to Norris and Isa lake bridge. OFI to West Thumb will be closed till June 11th. Mammoth to Norris can expect 30 min delays and no night closures.

Status: Completed

4.2. Xanterra update

Xanterra

Updates by Beth Casey

Beth Casey was unable to join us today.

Status: Completed

4.3. Gardiner Gateway Project

Daniel Bierschwale

Gardiner Gateway Project update

We will have weekly updated Park County reports and Park Service will be more involved in this phase. The project is administered by Western Federal Lands, that rep will distribute the info. to Park County and the Park Service and they will come to us to publish in the newsletter. The contractor is required to provide access to open businesses and to the parking areas so if there is any problem we need to notify Park County. There will be updates on the Project and County websites.

Will there be an overview i.e.—this is the schedule we hope to have?

Parks Frady – Yes, first we are waiting to get the final word on who has won the contract. From Memorial Day to Labor Day during the busy time they will try to stay out of the way. The contractor is to notify a business when they are going to be in front of a business. The newsletter is the best way to disseminate the information.

Status: Completed



4.4. Properties and Facilities

Schalene Darr

Update on: Gardiner Visitor Center, Community Center and Rodeo Grounds

Schalene has been very busy assisting Barbara with the office move. She got the furniture moved and the walls painted and has done a great job! A huge thanks to everyone who helped with the move.

Status: Completed

4.5. Marketing

Jean Modesette

Update on Marketing Projects-

We are working on Convention and Visitor's Bureau (CVB) status and the accompanying marketing plan.

We have a meeting today. Jean has been working with MTOT planning a work shop. MTOT will be here April 1st at Chico Hot Springs. This is for the business community to learn how to market their own business and how to use MTOT to their advantage. This year they will touch on social media and they are giving away an I-pad mini. The workshop is from 8-4pm. Registration required. You can contact the Chamber office for more information.

Status: Completed

4.6. Public Comment Chamber

Gardiner Chamber

Member Bonnie Lynn – Yellowstone Park Riverfront Cabins. She has been a member for many years and thanks Barb and Danny for everything we have done.

She continues: When you have a closure due to construction that is one thing but the bison hunt has shut her business down for the entire winter. She has to tell people what they are going to see Jan., Feb., March and April. Can you imagine being closed-- bills to pay.

She is asking us for intervention/support. FWP has asked the hunter to go for the mamas (bison) it is a two for one shot. There are gut piles everywhere. We ask for your understanding and help to change this.



Scott -clarification- your property is what used to be the Beatty cabins? Yes, she owns three of the cabins. She is alone, her one neighbor left for a while- she couldn't take it (the neighbor) - the pillage is unbelievable.

She is starting a campaign but also wants to let people know she is not against treaty rights or hunting. The problem is the area is a bottle neck area; there are blood, guts and hooves in the roadway. She has people coming in May and she is worried about the 300 gut piles laying on 5 acres. - "I do thank you for listening".

Danny- We are entering into a strategic planning session next week this is one of the items on the agenda for next year.

Casey Hubbard- He is here regarding the rodeo grounds. He is requesting the use of the grounds for this year and hopefully in the future. He is coming to us early- he doesn't want to lease from TNT anymore, he wants to build his own stand and get his own products in. He is hoping that he can lease again June 24- July 5. He needs a week before and a week after the 4th of July holiday. So three weeks total. He understands some people don't like fireworks but a lot do love them. He is very passionate about them and he is willing to address any issues, sign a lease and get insurance.

Danny lets Casey know to get in touch with Schalene and Scott. They are the properties and facilities committee.

Sabina are we talking permanent or temporary?

Casey wanted to take a part of the grounds and use it for the community to light them (Fireworks), but of course, if the County gets a part of the property that completely changes things. He would, perhaps, request at some point that his stand be a permanently located there- yet be movable.

Danny- Make a request for this year and then we will look at that later. We have a lot of requests for use on the rodeo grounds.

Scott thank you for having a clean operations and having educational material.

Danny- Next Thursday board retreat.

Status: Completed

4.7. Date Next Meeting

Daniel Bierschwale

March 19, 2015 Gardiner Visitor Center

1:18pm meeting adjourned.

March 19, 2015 Gardiner Visitor Center

Status: Completed

Recording Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date: