

# 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, December 21st, 2017 from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM**  
Location: Upstairs at the Gardiner Welcome Center  
Purpose: Regularly Scheduled Meeting

## **Agenda:**

**Call to Order: 12:04**

### **1. Chamber Business**

#### **1.1. Roll Call & Introductions**

Schalene Darr, Sabina Strauss, Jeff Guengerich, Anna Holloway, Sue Johnson, Neli Karamfilova, Edwin Johnson, Trina Smith, Jim Stark

Absent- Neli Karamfilova

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

Minutes from September 2017 and November 2017

Jim and Sabina abstain from voting on November Minutes. Trina motions, Jeff seconds. Minutes approved.

### **2. Committee Business**

#### **2.1 Properties and Facilities**

Monica Russell submitted proposal for a coffee kiosk at the rodeo grounds. While the board feels this is a great idea that policy and usage of the rodeo grounds is currently in flux and they would like to solidify policy and usage guidelines before we agree to any business options. This will be a top priority for the Properties and Facilities committee in the new year. Sabina

suggested posing the idea at the Annual Meeting of the Members to get a starting point of what people would like to see done on the property. We would then send out a survey to the community to better utilize the space.

## **2.2 CVB**

Updates: Fall Promo Video is in final edits the committee is very happy with the first draft and preparing to begin winter filming. Banner Ads will now be available on the website, Loren and Neala will be doing training with TDG to be able to load and control the ads. CVB has started a joint venture with the state of MT and RootsRated to help with content creation and promotion. Governors' Conference will be April 15-17<sup>th</sup>, registration is now open.

## **2.3 Director's Report**

Updates: Chamber has been busy with infrastructure improvements- now able to offer Credit Card Processing for newsletter and membership renewals. Submitted three grant proposals to the resort tax and received funding on all three-new carpeting, bear proof cans and art wraps, and getting electricity to the Arch Park stage. Will also be receiving funding for capital payment and operations, this will be larger than normal because of back taxes collected and we would like to make a conscious effort to create a rainy day fund.

## **3. CUA Update from Members**

Cara McCarthy-In Our Nature Guide Service- and Nathan Varley- The Wild Side- came to speak on behalf of the local wildlife guides and give updates on the CUA proposal or fee increase. The board sent a letter in opposition to the CUA increase at the request of our members as the fees will put many of our local businesses out of business. Comment period will close on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and there is no current timeline for next steps. Edwin suggested reaching out to outfitters associations and American Outdoors to make sure they were involved and aware of the discussion.

## **4. Year End Items**

### **4.1 Approval of 2018 Budget**

Jeff makes a motion to approve, Jim Seconds

### **4.2 Approval of Policy and Procedures Updates**

Anna Makes a motion to approve, Trina seconds.

Discussion: Redact outdated language on pages 4 & 5 on executive committee descriptions. Discussion of appropriate amount of absences. It is agreed upon that members can not miss more than three meetings in a calendar year, excused or unexcused, before they are asked to step down. Options for conference lines will be available for people who are traveling and are not able to be present in person. Event planning will fall under CVB/Marketing committee for the time being.

Motion Passes.

## **5. Date of next meeting**

Event is scheduled for January 9<sup>th</sup> but this will be in conflict with a Yellowstone Forever event. Loren will reach out to venue about changing the date to January 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*Annual Meeting of the Members will be January 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm at the Mammoth Banquet Hall