

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, October 18th, 2018 from 4:00PM to 5:00PM**

Location: Gardiner Chamber of Commerce

Purpose: Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Agenda:

- 1. Chamber Business**
 - 1.1. Roll Call & Introductions**

Jeff Guengerich, Sabina Strauss, Trina Smith, Anna Holloway, Edwin Johnson, Jim Stark

Excused Absent: Mike Keller, Neli Karamfilova

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

Minutes from September 2018

Jim Motion for approval with the addendum that we fix Roll Call to reflect Trina absent. Anna Second. Motion Passes.

- 2. Committee Updates**

- 2.1 CVB/Marketing**

Neala Fugere- See attached report.

Launched winter video with 30,000 views so far. Accepted travel guide printing bid from TDG.

Sale of travel guide ad space has begun, mailing sent out to all members this week. As a part of the Northern Range cooperative with Cooke City we designed a full-page ad for the Yellowstone Grand Teton Winter Trip Planner.

- 2.2 Directors Report**

Loren Barrett

VIC Numbers September- Overall summer visitation increased 2% from last year. Saw significant increase in September visitation with NPS numbers showing a 22.04% increase at the North Entrance. VIC stats consistent with previous years- TX, CA, MN top visiting states, Canada, UK, Australia top international visitors. Biggest growth seen in September and June.

Resort Tax Grant Options 2019- Request from 'Gardiner: A Successful Community' group to submit grant for \$15,000 to bring Future West, a community planning agency to Gardiner. Discussion around what deliverables that money buys, how is it different from what has already been done by HRDC. Jeff, presenting the proposal, said the main objective was to get all the key players to the table to create some kind of plan. Jim and Trina echoed requests for examples of successes. Proposal was originally given to Community Council who does not have the capacity to write grant at this time, consensus that this is a community issue and not a Chamber/business related request and thus should not come from the Chamber. Tabling for now, with offer for Loren to help GGCC write grant.

Annual Meeting- Will schedule for January 7th, 6-8p at the Community Center. Will have two board seats open, need to start considering who might be interested in joining the board. Discussion on upcoming balloon mortgage and finding a strong financial board member to assist.

Dates of Note- Friday at 11am there will be a Senate subcommittee hearing hosted at the Gardiner School Multipurpose room to discuss infrastructure strains on gateway communities, open to all. November 7th, from 6-8pm at Yellowstone Forever NPS will be hosting a CUA update for commercial license holders.

2.3 Yellowstone National Park

Mary Wilson- North District Ranger

Cameron Sholly began today as the new superintendent of Yellowstone National Park. Fishing bridge to Sedge bay now closed for the season. Visitors can access the park only as far as sedge bay, park visitors cannot exit the park through that entrance. Park Service is attempting to keep Dunraven open until November 5th, weather permitting. All park roads, with the exception of the northern Range will close at 8am on November 5th. For park updates call 307-344-2117, to receive park updates on the phone text "82190" to 888-7777. Overall park visitation for 2018 is down .31% but had a busy September with an overall increase of 13%. Steamboat on track to have record number of eruptions for the year, currently there have been 23 and on average eruptions occurring every 5-7 days. Geyser hill closures are still in effect.

2.4 Properties and Facilities

Front of Building- Jim Stark is going to take a look. Requested that Loren look through the shed and storage and see if we have any leftover stucco or drivet.

Signage Around Town- Suggestion from Paul Miller to pursue signage on side streets to direct to local businesses. Would like to pursue this at a later date.

5. Public Comment

Joe Gross- Requested the Chamber send a letter to Jeff Ebert about rip raff to shore up the road by mile post 32.

6. Date of Next Meeting

November 15th, 2018