

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, May 17th, 2018 from 12:00PM to 1:00PM**

Location: Gardiner Chamber of Commerce

Purpose: Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Agenda:

1. Chamber Business

5 mins

1.1. Roll Call & Introductions

Sabina Strauss, Trina Smith, Anna Holloway, Edwin Johnson, Neli Karamfilova, Mike Keller, Kristin Nunn, Jim Stark

Absent: Jeff Guengerich

1.2 Approval of Prior Month's Meeting Minutes

Minutes from April 2018

2. Committee Updates & Assignments

20 mins

2.1 Yellowstone National Park

Joe Holden- North District Ranger

Several incidents already in the Park this summer, Park Service encourages us to continue to spread messaging about park stewardship and boardwalk safety/ Interagency Bear Management Team will be trapping and tracking grizzlies in the area, areas will be marked and closed to the public. Starting June 1st park fees will increase \$5, and there will no longer be a joint 7-day pass for Yellowstone and the Tetons. Still no word on the proposed CUA increase. Road from Mammoth to Norris will again have night closures from 10pm to 7am.

2.2 CVB/Marketing

Neala starts May 21st

June TAC meeting- Loren and Neala will be heading to Helena to present the FY19 CVB Marketing plan for final approval.

Promotional Videos- Have just wrapped filming on final video and approved Fall and Winter. Fall video will be launched in July.

Website Updates- Continuing to build out website to create more members resources as well as a winter planning microsite.

2.3 Directors Report

Gardiner-Livingston Bus- New transportation service had a slow start but is starting to see an increase in ridership. Focus on our end is to continue to build awareness and encourage businesses to tell their employees about this service.

Increased Travelers early May- Have seen an increase in visitation at the Visitor Center and are hearing reports from other gateway communities that we are seeing high numbers for the start of the season.

Spring Workshop Summaries-Ideas for the Fall- Spring series concluded with small turnout but engaged attendants. Will continue with a fall series that will be marketing focused.

VIC starts May 25th- New summer staff will be starting to help assist in the Visitor Center.

Gardiner Walking Map

ITRR Gardiner Survey- Follow up to 2013 survey comparing resident and nonresident perceptions of Gardiner. ITRR team will be coming through the first week of June and leaving surveys with residents. They will also be a survey sent out to business members to assess the business perspective.

2.4 Membership

Explore

Yellowstone Wonders

2.5 Properties and Facilities

Exterior Building Projects: Flagpoles, Building Front

4. Proposal for Fireworks at Rodeo Grounds

15mins

Request from Casey Hubbard to renew Fireworks Lease Agreement under the same terms as 2017. Presented map of rodeo grounds and explanation of where fireworks are shot from. Last year had 48 participants and three times as many to watch event.

Discussion: Bert and Wanda Manry representing the Yellowstone Village Inn as the closest property to the event expressed serious concern about the disturbance, the fire danger to their property and all of Gardiner. In 2017 they had to refund a guest \$750 and respond to noise complaints from their guests. Feel that 11:15pm is too late and that the weeds in the area represent a major fire hazard. Now that they have a heads up on the event they will be able to let guests know ahead of time but still request that the Board does not allow event to continue.

Amend Firework Lease to reflect Chamber responsibility to clear weeds and brush before the evening of the event, alter the hours from 8:00pm-11:5pm to 9:00pm-11:00pm, and seek out security to help enforce time restrictions. Lease Agreement contingent on Casey acquiring insurance.

Edwin Motion to Approve with added stipulations to lease agreement. Kristin Seconds.

5-In favor 2-Opposed, Sabina Abstains

Motion Approved

5. Public Comment

5mins

6. Date of Next Meeting

June 21st, 2018