

**POWELL COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Minutes are from the January 17th, 2013 meeting held at 5:15pm at the Chamber Office.

Those present: Bob Toole, Marge Bloomquist, Dave Williams, Julia Brewer, Patty Cowan, Heidi Rome, Therese Hunt and Jim Cameron

Bob called the meeting to order at 5:18pm

- **Officers election** – T nominated Bob Toole as President. Bob accepted the nomination. Julia seconded. No other nominations received. Nominations are now closed. Voting followed and Bob Toole was unanimously confirmed as Chamber President for 2013.

Marge nominated T as Vice president, and T accepted. Julia seconded nomination. No other nominations received. Nominations are now closed. Voting followed and Therese Hunt was unanimously confirmed as Chamber Vice President.

Jim nominated Julia Brewer as Secretary, seconded by T. Julia accepted the nomination. No more nominations were received. Nominations now closed. Voting followed and Julia Brewer was unanimously elected Chamber Secretary.

Marge nominated Patty as Treasurer, Heidi seconded. Patty accepted the nomination. No further nominations received. Nominations are now closed. Voting followed and Patty Cowan was unanimously elected Chamber Treasurer

- **Other Business** – Bob and Dave spoke about the new MT Office of Tourism grant of \$5,000 to cover expenses for Visitor Information Centers. The Chamber qualifies for this amount, providing an employee attends a 2 day training workshop, scheduled for May 9th and 10th 2013 in Great Falls. Dave had registered for this workshop in order to qualify as one of the first 20, to receive all expenses paid including motels. The program covers the cost of employing someone to cover weekends between Memorial Day and Labor Day, when our VIC is normally unstaffed. Julia asked if the Museums Visitor center would be able to cover the staffing needs, and this will be determined at a later date. The program also includes help with signage costs and advertising campaign posters, and the installation of a wireless modem (WI-FI), which would be an additional facility for the Chamber VIC to offer its visitors.

Bob spoke about the fact that the Chamber meeting had been changed to the first Thursday of every month, from the original Friday. Bob asked how the board members felt about changing it back to Fridays. Tabled until our next meeting.

Committee's need to be discussed at the February meeting for Territorial Days and Demolition Derby.

- **Website Hosting** – Dave had investigated our webhosting requirements, and suggested we go with Hostgator's Baby Plan at \$7.96 per month, with SiteLock security for an extra \$14.99 per year. Domain name transfers are also cheaper at \$7.95. Julia made a motion for the Chamber to switch hosting to Hostgator with security lock. T seconded, Motion carried.

- **Minutes for December 2012** – T made a motion to accept the December minutes as presented. Marge seconded. Motion passed and minutes accepted.

- **Old Montana Prison Museums** – Julia said that the visitor numbers for 2012 were up on the previous year by about 2.7%. Retail sales were down.

T made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Julia seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:41 pm