

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

Minutes are from the July 7th, 2011 meeting held at 12 noon at the Broken Arrow Steakhouse.

Those present: Bob Toole, Dave Williams, Patty Cowan, Donna Galbraith, Julia Brewer, Cass Cahill and Jim Cameron.

Also present: Julie Croglia, Betty Hadley and Mark Anderson.

Bob called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m.

- **Adoption of Minutes** – Since there were insufficient board members to make a quorum last month, the minutes for May were handed out to all members. A motion to adopt the minutes as presented was made by Donna, 2nd by Cass. The motion was passed.

A motion to approve the June minutes as is was made by Patty, 2nd by Jim. Motion passed.

- **Secretary's Report** – Chamber Membership stands at 78. Inquiries up by 35 at 128 total, 51 phone, 10 email and 67 office visits. Mailed out 1 visitor pack. Website statistics were 67,860 hits (up 7,861), 15,776 page views, 4,137 unique visitors and 758 pdf/doc downloads (up 47). PayPal account was debited \$9.50 for mailing brochures to visitor centers, also USPS Click N Ship was debited \$61.75 for brochure mailings to visitor centers. New brochures delivered, they have been shipped to Certified Folder centers, enough quantities for at least 2 years distribution. Remaining boxes of brochures stored in the office and storeroom. Patty asked if postage had been included in the grant. Dave said it had, and receipts of all mailings will be provided to Gold West.

- **Flower Baskets** – Discussion followed on the quality of this years baskets, and the watering of them. Other cities have larger baskets, ours are limited in size due to weight restrictions on the mounting arms on the poles. Steve Stryker had spoken with Cass after he had trimmed them, there are one or two trees that may need to be replaced. The mayor had been talking to Ed Hebbe since the City are responsible for the trees.

- **2011 Territorial Days** – Discussion followed on the feedback members had received about Territorial Days, and the rescheduling due to the recent flooding on Main Street. Income and Expense report showed cars and vendor numbers were down, but overall profit was up on last year, at \$2100 against \$1800. Julia said that it worked very well for the Museums, with the Gun Show on the same weekend. A record number at the Gun Show on Saturday. Discussion followed on the reason behind the rescheduling, and support for the decision. Some vendors and local businesses had expressed good sales and greater numbers on their premises than for many years. Police reported a good crowd and no fights. Patty said not to mention 'Rod Run' in any press releases, posters, forms, internet, etc. We do not hold a 'Rod Run', it is a 'Show N Shine', and Rod clubs had complained to her about it. Patty said that an announcement needs to be made not to throw candy during the parade, a little girl had her hand run over by a truck. This needs to be looked at, maybe involve the City and law enforcement making an announcement, rather than the Chamber. Mark said that they passed out bottled water, but people still came up to the vehicle. Mark suggested more tables and chairs for people to sit and eat. The Blue Ribbon Pavilion stands may be suitable. Bob said that it was great having a lot of events happening on the same day. With the wood bat and Cat/Griz golf tournament going on that weekend as well, many people were in town. Julia said that she had received comments from Gun Show vendors who said that they would want a table on Main Street if Territorial Days and the Gun Show coincide again next year. Allow people to enter via Tower 7, or running the Paddy Wagon between downtown and the Museums. Investigate schedule conflicts with other Gun Shows and Car Shows. Cass said the only problem at the campground is it is better for her business if events are strung out over the Summer.

- **Demolition Derby** – Bob had been talking with Bill Lanes (Crash the Clown) and he had said that the pickup category wasn't working, if we eliminate that we can pay out to sixth place. He recommended not to introduce 'Chain and Bang', and not to mess with our show. Bob's been talking

with many drivers. Missoula is a week before our event. No event is up against ours. An event committee meeting will be held soon.

- **Grant-Kohrs Ranch Report** – Julie said the ranch is very busy, the Youth programs are in operation and proving to be very successful. Julie will be at the Butte Folk Festival talking about the Ranch and encouraging people to visit Deer Lodge. Ranch Days are coming up this month, on the 23rd and 24th. The Kohrs-Beilenberg family reunion will be in town, with 115 descendants, on Thursday 21st to the 24th.

- **Old Montana Prisons** – Julia said visitor numbers for June had crept up due to the better weather, record numbers for Saturday at the Gun Show. July 4th saw 300 people in the yard for the food and fireworks. Tourists from around the States, as well as some Japanese visitors who were fascinated by the pig roast. No events in July but August 1st sees ‘Shakespeare in the Park’ at 6pm, free of charge. ‘Much Ado About Nothing’. On the 20th August they will have their Yard Sale and Museum Appreciation Day. Open 7 days a week from 8 am till 6 pm.

- **Powell County Medical Center** – Mark said that the opening date had been moved to August 29th, the cement was not curing as they had hoped. Open house and dinner on the 23rd August. Tickets will be \$100, last opportunity to see the whole facility before opening. Currently interviewing doctors, looking for a female doctor.

- **Draft Horse Expo** – Betty said there are many changes planed. Judging is going to points, paying out higher premiums, more incentives and premiums go down to 5th place. The program will be changed, aiming to make banners to promote the sponsors. The center pages of the Program Book will list all sponsors, with full contact details and no pictures. Linda Spaulding will be printing the program and banners locally.

- **Other Business** – Julia announced that KC Sackman had resigned as Curator at the Museums, so she is keeping very busy.

A motion to adjourn was made by Patty, seconded by Julia. Meeting adjourned at 1 p.m.