

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

Minutes are from the May 5th, 2011 meeting held at 12 noon at the Broken Arrow Steakhouse.

Those present: Bob Toole, Dave Williams, Cass Cahill, Marge Bloomquist, Donna Galbraith, Tina Schowengerdt, Therese Hunt and Julia Brewer.

Also present: Julie Croglia and Shirley Cortright.

Bob called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

Cass made a motion to adopt the minutes for April, seconded by Marge. Motion passed.

- **Secretary's Report** – Chamber Membership stands at 76. Inquiries down by 17 at 39 total, 19 phone, 10 email and 10 office visits. Mailed out 3 Visitor packs. Website statistics were 49,899 hits, 14,119 page views, 5,707 unique visitors (up by 1,616 on March) and 546 pdf/doc downloads (up 98).

Paypal account was \$12.95 for Visitor Pack mailings. Dave requested permission to set up an account with the USPS online 'Click N Ship' to enable use of Regional Priority Mail boxes, thus saving more on shipping fees. Marge made a motion to set up a USPS account and Donna seconded. Motion accepted.

Contract and check for brochure distribution has been mailed to Certified Brochure, together with the 50% payment from Gold West. The Deer Lodge brochure now has all advertisers signed up and Dave anticipates it will be with the printers next week.

Superhost training is set for May 16<sup>th</sup>, from 1 till 4pm at the Pen convention center. Dave handed out flyers and information to the board. Dave will take the info out to all the local businesses tomorrow to get as many signed up. Cass asked about signing up, and offered to donate cookies. Julia said the Museum will supply coffee and pitchers of water. Many friends have been signed up with Facebook. The Get Lost in Montana campaign is still low in stories about Deer Lodge.

- **Flower Baskets** – Cass said she hadn't heard from Lanette, but presumed things were progressing well. Stryker will be taking care of the trees, pruning them soon for \$600. The tire rings for the base of the trees, Cass will be going to Helena next week to speak to the nursery for prices. Anticipate \$30 per tree ring? Donna suggested Cass try at ACE hardware. Request the boot camp to install them.

- **Chamber billboard project** – Therese handed around a sheet with the graphic design for the billboard. Discussion followed, where it was suggested that the text be in black instead of red to aid visibility. T was congratulated on the graphic and asked to proceed with Mike Tillo.

- **2011 Territorial Day** – T spoke with Jan Bender and she has offered to run and staff the Pepsi Wagon. Wes Haar and his band have been contacted, waiting to hear back from the drummer but everyone else is available. Jan will ask Thompson Distributing to see if they will donate \$200 towards the cost of the band as in previous years. For trophies for this year, T suggested some glassware, a decanter or set of 4 glasses. Similar prices as last year. Sponsors names would be on the stage banner, not on the trophies. Ivan would go around or call for sponsors, and would deliver posters around town for us. T will ask Thompson Distributing to print posters and drop off at the bars and out of town. Julia has agreed to lend chairs and tables, a truck is available, just need help loading and unloading. T will get judges for the parade. Julia will start the parade. Brud has agreed to help the turn-a-round at Pizza Hut parking lot. Dash plaque design was handed around. Tina made a motion to accept the dash plaques, seconded by Donna. Motion carried. The car on the plaque was identified as a Duisenberg. It was decided not to sell printed T-Shirts, but T offered to make some for the judges and anyone who wants them. Marge made a motion to go with the decanters for trophies. Seconded by Cass. Motion carried.

The Grand Marshall needs to be selected, discussion followed and names suggested were Donna McCarthy, Therese Hunt, Mayor Mary Ann Frayley. The board members voted and the votes

were collected by Dave to be counted, results to be notified to Bob. It was suggested we have a 'Peoples Choice' award, voted on by the public. The board agreed. Donations required from businesses for the driver bags.

- **Grant-Kohrs Ranch Report** - Julie said the numbers for April were down by about 20%, Junior Ranger day had a good turn-out. Calving has started. Hours are 9 till 4:30pm, changing on Memorial Day to Labor Day to 9 till 5:30pm. The wagon rides to be decided soon.

- **Old Prison Museums Report** – Julia said all the museums will be open May 16<sup>th</sup>, daily from 8am till 6pm. The Hobby Shop has expanded into the old 'Prospectors Playground' building, doubling their space, and they will be on the internet. The old Wardens House will be opening as 'Territorial Antiques and Uniques', run by Marge Bloomquist. A beautiful house, targeted to open May 15<sup>th</sup>. A new Western Art Exhibit will be opening in the Gallery on June 1<sup>st</sup>, free of charge. Gun Show at the end of June. 'Annie' will be performed this evening at the Gunport Theater and runs till Sunday.

- **Other Business** – Bob was asked by the Montana Range Days board to bring up the issue of sponsorship. It will bring in large numbers of visitors. A motion for the Chamber to sponsor the event for \$250 was made by Donna, seconded by Julia. Motion passed.

Motion to end meeting proposed by Marge, seconded by T.

Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 1:11 p.m.