**Cut Bank Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes**

**March 6th, 2019, Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Cut Bank Chamber Office – Noon**

**Directors Present:** Don Grubb, Brandon Greco, Bryan Simons, Nicole Altenburg, Ric Beals, Calcie Stubbs, Nate Kavanagh, , JR Meyers, Kristi Rowell, Stephanie Eney

**Executive Director:** Amy Overstreet

**Directors Absent:** Jessica Waldner(Excused)

**Office Assistant:** Erin Kittson (Not Present)

**Guests Attending:** Ashley Kavanagh (Cut Bank Pioneer Press)

**Regular Business:** The meeting was called to order by Chamber President Ric Beals. The minutes from the February 20th Annual meeting were presented for approval. Don Grubb made the motion to approve and accept the minutes with Nate Kavanagh seconding the motion. Being no further discussion, the minutes were approved.

The financial reports from February were reviewed. See attached.

Balances’ were reported as follows: Chamber Checking Account $10,926.79; Savings – Hiline Arts Grant $2,504.32; Economic Development Checking Account $9.87; Gift Certificate Account $2,691.41; Buckle Account $7,463.99.

Treasurer Nate Kavanagh presented the financials. Nate noted that the Economic Development account is down to where the expenses will be exceeding the revenue, which means that shortly we are going to have to transfer some money to this account. After a further review of the financials, Stephanie made a motion to approve the transfer of funds at a determined nomination of Nate and Todd’s choosing from the operating account to the economic development account, JR seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved. JR made the motion to approve the February financials with Stephanie seconding the motion. Being no further discussion, the financials were approved.

**Old Business**

**Mercantile Update:** No Mercantile Update

**Public Drug Update:** Amy reported that the Public Drug recently had frozen pipes due to an HVAC failure. Thankfully Chad Johnson of Johnson Heating and Cooling was able to come and fix the HVAC system and after the pipes unthawed no water leak was found. Amy also updated the board that she has had three recent real estate inquiries of interested parties to view the Public Drug.

**Membership Drive Update:** Nate updated that membership numbers were in range from where we were last year at this time. Nate appreciated the director’s effort to reach out to non-renewals but would like to make one last push for memberships deeming March membership month. Nicole brought up a request for an additional membership tier for At Home Businesses.

**Banquet/Citizen of the Year Discussion:** Amy updated that the banquet is moving along and things are on track for venue, food, and entertainment. Amy noted that freezer space was needed to hold the duck and buffalo meat that was generously donated. Amy also reminded the directors to reach out to the non-renewal event sponsors that they signed up for via email.

**Chamber Cell Phone Plan Update:** Amy updated that she is still working on adding a line to her phone and canceling our existing internet with Charter. The transition should be complete this month as issues arose when Charter would not release our existing number.

**New Business**

**Lewis and Clark Festival Update:** Nicole updated the Lewis and Clark Committee had been hard at work lining up a variety of entertainment options for this year’s Lewis and Clark Festival. Nicole noted that the committee is currently searching for an emcee. The committee is looking to have a full schedule lined up with no breaks in order to keep people at the park. The committee is looking forward to teaming up with the National Guard and adding an obstacle course to this year’s entertainment. Nicole noted that all directors are welcome to join their upcoming meeting or forward any entertainment ideas to her as the committee is committed to keeping the festival fresh and fun.

**VIC Grant Request Update:** Amy updated that she recently submitted grant to help fund the Visitor’s Center for 2019 and we should hear if we are awarded the funds by the middle of April.

**Discover Cut Bank Promotion and Billboard Discussion and Approval:** Ashley Kavanagh reported that the Cut Bank Pioneer Press was working hard to revamp the Discover Cut Bank magazine. While doing so they had reached out to Yesco about purchasing a billboard to entice tourists to “Discover Cut Bank.” Ashley presented three potential billboard designs that showcased Cut Bank’s landscape along with slogans why tourists should stop to discover more. The board was very interested in teaming up with Cut Bank Pioneer Press to make the billboard a reality. After further discussion, Ashley was going to look into pricing for year-round costs for the billboard located in between Browning and Cut Bank.

**Annual Review of Policies and Procedures:** Amy stated that she had sent out all of the policies and procedures to the board for review.

**Discussion of Revision of Political Endorsement Policy and Approval:** Ric presented a new revision of the political endorsement policy. After a review of the new policy, the board decided it still needed to be researched and revamped before approval.

**Reminders:**

• Chamber Up-March 11th @ NRMC Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy Dept. 5:30-7

• Event Sponsors of Banquet Due-March 20th, 2019

• Citizen of the Year Nominations Due-March 29th, 2019

• April Board Meeting – April 3rd, Chamber Office, 12pm

• Cut Bank Chamber Annual Banquet- April 27th Cut Bank Civic Center

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Calcie Stubbs**

**Vice President/Director**