



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 5, 2008

1:00 PM

PRESENT:

Officers and Directors: Julie Anderson, Mike Anderson, Lori Buck, Frank Christopherson, Jeff Flaherty, Rick Herzog, Beth Iallonardo, Wendy Johnson, Carolyn Kolar, Katie Koppy, Bruce Nelson, and Patrick Shifferdecker.

Chamber Members: Ron Revere and Sam Klemet, WCMP Radio; Mayor Jane Robbins and Administrator Don Howard, City of Pine City; Julie Werner, Pamida; Sharon Fore, Pine City Pioneer; Jack Klein, Agstar Financial Services; Kellie Sly, Masterson Personnel; and Seth Hinrichs, Evergreen Community Church.

Guests: Betsy Carpenter and Sandi Sparling, Miss Pine City Committee

AGENDA:

President Herzog called the meeting to order at 12:59 PM.

President's Topics

Sign Ordinance Meeting: On Wednesday, February 2, 2008 at 3:00 PM at Red Dog Billy's Bar and Grill, the Pine City Chamber will be hosting an informational meeting regarding the Sign Ordinance for the City of Pine City. Chamber members, as well as non-members, are invited to attend this informational meeting to voice their concerns regarding the current sign ordinance and work with the Chamber leadership board to address the problems with the ordinance.

Community Fundraiser Cards: Rick has been visiting with area businesses regarding the next edition of the Community Fundraiser Cards. Representatives from the Super Saver Card have contacted the Senior Center to serve as the sponsoring agent for their card. Rick has contacted the Senior Center and discussed with them the drawbacks of the Super Saver Card and the possibilities that the Community Fundraiser Card has for all businesses and non-profit organizations in Pine City. Rick and Jeff, chairpersons for this program, are hosting a meeting on February 19, 2008 at 2 PM at Red Dog Billy's Bar and Grill. Any Chamber business with interest in the Fundraiser Card is asked to attend.

March Meeting Location Change: The March 4th Chamber Board of Director's meeting will be held at Red Dog Billy's Bar & Grill at the regular start time of 1PM. Those wishing to have lunch before the meeting should plan on arriving at 12:30 PM. Please RSVP to the Chamber Office so that we may pre-order your meal.

Business Tour of MINPACK: Chamber member, Bob Thompson, is interested in inviting Chamber members to tour his facility. A discussion of a "Business After Hours" tour possibility, follow up on March agenda.

Executive Director's Report:

Membership Update: As of today's meeting, 101 membership payments have been received for 2008. New members in January: Pregnancy Resource Center and Hair Tech & Tan.

NovoPrint Map Update: Work on finalizing the layout of the map is currently underway. The number of advertiser's in this year's edition is far below the anticipated



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1:00 PM

number of participants – there are still 11 spots open. Despite the reduced ads, the Chamber will still receive a minimum of \$2000 on commission for the completed project.

Website Committee Update: The committee has been working with our website developer on making some improvements to the site. There are a number of items that we hope to improve upon, but our budget for improvements is only \$450 for the 2008 budget year. With that in mind, the first additions that we are making to the website are getting the Business Logo's added to the Home Page. Each visitor that comes to the site will see a different sponsor. This is the same business directory logo that a business has, we've just added the feature to the front page on a rotating basis

Treasurer's Report: General expenses for the month of January were submitted for approval. Miss Pine City scholarship payments were also noted. A motion was made to approve the treasurer's report (PS), seconded (JF) and motion carried.

Business & Community Development Report: (Frank Christopherson)

A few updates from the EDA meeting from January were noted. They are refurbishing the Star City sign located on the south entrance into Pine City. The Lodge group continues to make plans for a Pine City location and will meet with the City in March. The Post Office will likely begin developing the former Jubilee site for its new location. The developers that recently toured the Pine County Courthouse plan to return in March for a second look at the facility.

A suggestion was made for the Chamber and the EDA to work together on creating a freeway billboard sign of some type that would encourage visitors to come to "Downtown Pine City". Frank will propose the idea at the EDA meeting tomorrow.

Chamber Tourism Center Study: (Bruce Nelson)

Bruce has looked at the stone building and possible sites for a new location, but without further direction from the Chamber Board, he is unsure of how to proceed with his research. Patrick indicated that he feels the Chamber doesn't have the necessary financial resources to do what's necessary to move the building and make it of use for the Chamber of Commerce. Rick questioned whether or not Pine City has the right attractions to weigh out the necessary costs. Upon suggestion from Mayor Jane Robbins, the issue was tabled until the March meeting.

Ambassador Visits : (Wendy Johnson)

Ambassador visits will be Wednesday, February 13th beginning at 1:00 PM. The first location will be Java Joe's Bistro. Rick raised the idea of including existing members in our monthly ambassador visits. It was agreed that this would be a good idea, but a list should be generated based on length in business, number of years as a Chamber member, etc. to determine the appropriate order for these visits to occur. Frank asked that Becky put together a proposed list by April for review by the directors.

Miss Pine City Committee: (Betsy Carpenter)

The Miss Pine City Committee met and discussed the possibility of a Miss Teen Pageant in Pine City. The committee has chosen not to pursue this event for the 2008 pageant, but may look to add in the future. Due to personal issues, Betsy Carpenter has submitted her resignation as the Miss Pine City Committee Chairperson and Pageant Director. Sandi



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 5, 2008

1:00 PM

Sparling was in attendance at the meeting and has agreed to serve as the Pageant Director for 2008 as Carpenter's replacement.

Pine City Royalty Report : (Katie Kopyy)

Katie attended the Winter Carnival at the end of January representing Pine City in the visiting queen program. She participated in a number of activities, met the newly crowned King Boreas, and walked in the Winter Carnival parade.

Additional Items Not on Agenda:

Beth Iallonardo attended the Pine County Preparedness Action Committee meeting as the representative from both Wal-mart and the Pine City Chamber. The committee is organized to help develop a plan for dealing with "disaster" events such as the Pandemic Flu, Anthrax attack, or even a natural disaster. The program is both state and county funded and the group is planning a June 24th mock disaster.

Julie Anderson wanted to take a moment to thank all of the volunteers who assisted with the booth for the Lifestyle Show. Another year that was truly successful due in large part to those that volunteer to staff the booth.

Chamber events that are still in need of chairperson's were filled today. Wendy Johnson and Carolyn Kolar have agreed to co-chair the Pine County Parade with TJ Musgrove. Wendy will coordinate in 2009 and Carolyn will coordinate in 2010. Beth Iallonardo will serve as the chairperson for the Business and Industry Banquet. The only event that still needs a chairperson is Holiday Madness.

Freedom Fest Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, February 7th at 4:00 PM in the Community Room.

Motion to adjourn (PS) at 1:52PM, seconded (BI) motion passed.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: *Tuesday, March 4, 2008 at 1:00 PM*
Red Dog Billy's Bar & Grill