



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 4, 2008

1:00 PM

PRESENT:

Officers and Directors: Rick Herzog, Mike Anderson, Julie Anderson, Lori Buck, Frank Christopherson, Jeff Flaherty, Carolyn Kolar, T. Janet Musgrove, Kerri Schumacher, Jade Fedder & Nicole Sebastian.

Chamber Members: Chad Faur, Mac-Clair Mortgage; and Marya Willert, Country Financial.

Guests: Ty Laugerman, KBK Radio; Lezlie Ballis, Pine City Horizons Program

AGENDA:

President Herzog called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

President's Topics

Guest Speaker, Lezlie Ballis: President Herzog welcomed our guest to talk briefly about the Pine City Horizons Program. Lezlie Ballis presented information on the 18 month program that is already in progress for Pine City. The ultimate goal for the Horizons Program is to develop ways in which we can reduce the poverty in our own community. The program is currently in the study circles portion of the program in which small groups of 10 - 15 people are getting together over a number of weeks and having conversations that will lead the groups toward their goals. At the end of the 18 month program, if Pine City has met all of the guidelines set forth by Horizons, a \$10,000 grant could be awarded to Pine City to implement one of the programs of the groups choosing.

Initiative Foundation Banquet: President Herzog reported that the Initiative Foundation has chosen Pine City as the 2009 Outstanding Community. He would like to encourage the Chamber Members and Business Owners to attend the Foundation banquet on April 17th in St. Cloud. A motion was made (Christopherson) for the Chamber to contribute \$190 toward a Table Sponsorship at the Banquet if 8 attendees from the Chamber can be confirmed, seconded (Flaherty), and passed.

Executive Director Report

New Members: Welcome to the following new members: Dollar Stuff and More, Nicoll's Café, AllBreed North Dog Training and Handling; Harold's Quality Meats; Wild River Veterinary Clinic; Rock Creek Pit Stop and the Creative Cottage.

2009 Information Guide: The 2009 Pine City Information Guide is set for release in the first part of January. As there is no price increase over the amount that was budgeted for our participation in the guide with a ¼ page ad, we will have a color ad placed in the guide.

Treasurer's Report: Final expenses for the annual banquet were submitted and paid out this month as well as the Miss Pine City expense of the Winter Carnival fee. All other expenses this month are regular monthly expenses. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made (Fedder) and seconded (Flaherty), motion passed.

Budget Committee Report (Frank Christopherson)

The 2009 Budget Committee consisted of Frank Christopherson, TJ Musgrove, Mike Anderson and Becky Schueller. The budget was presented to the Board and currently shows a projected \$2600 deficit for the 2009 budget year. The committee has removed both of the



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summer fundraisers (2007-Art Fest Food Booth; 2008- Street Dance) from the income line as neither of these events yielded enough volunteers or fundraising dollars to make them a profitable income stream. Another income line is the Community Fundraiser Cards, although we have decreased the estimated income, it is still far greater than the actual revenue of this program in 2008. In order for this program to be a viable revenue stream there will be some reworking of the program necessary.

In the expense column, major additions to the budget include: funds for the annual membership seals that can be purchased through MINPACK on a yearly basis instead of every three years from the former printing company and an annual fee for filing of tax return for the General Operating Fund. The final increase in expenses is in the area of payroll where an increase to 25 hours per week has been recommended.

Following the presentation of the proposed budget, there was some discussion regarding the possibility of increasing dues in order to cover the proposed deficit. Frank pointed out that the general operating fund for the 2008 Budget is currently running \$1500 under budget. This surplus for 2008 would offset the planned deficit in 2009.

Chad Faur, with Mac-Clair Mortgage, made a suggestion to offer incentives to current chamber members that work to recruit a new member to the Chamber of Commerce. This would increase our membership and the dues revenue as well and could keep the dues membership rates at the current amounts. Other fundraising suggestions that were discussed include a Fall Clay Shoot event in cooperation with Wings North and a Women's Expo for our Home-Based Business consultants and Female business owners in Pine City.

Business and Community Development: (Frank Christopherson)

Frank reported on recent community developments that were announced at the regular EDA meeting last month. A new business, Chubby's Bar and Grill, is slated to open in the former location of Cedar Creek Outfitters. Matt and Jerry McConnell will be opening the restaurant later this winter.

When the fire hall committee met at the end of October, a plan for the fire hall had been developed. The plan has now been placed on hold pending other information that could affect the outcome of the fire hall status.

The Post Office is still on target for a January 1st opening at the new location.

Holiday Madness: (TJ Musgrove)

The Holiday Madness committee had met and plans are underway for another great year! The committee has made the decision to focus on the entertainment side of this event by coordinating the parade, lighting and events in the park. This year's event will focus the attention to Robinson Park where all events will be centered.

More planning will follow today's board meeting at 2PM.

Other Business:

Julie Anderson, chairperson for the Lifestyle Show, is looking for volunteers to man the booth at the event on January 30 and 31. Please sign up for a two hour shift with her.

Motion to adjourn at 1:55 PM