

Hill City Area Chamber of Commerce met on Wed. January 21, 2009 at meeting room at Woodland Bank.

President Dave Lange called the meeting to order at 6pm.

Members at the meeting were, Kathy Bounds, Greg Bounds, Tom Fastland, Chuck Hodge, Kathlyn Krammer, Patsy O'Brien, Georgia Benson, Mark Meyer, Dave Lange, Shirley Spenser, Mavis Gowell, Ella Kingsley, Bambi Lange, Janet Hatfield and Bill Becker.

Others also there were Carla Gilson, Gerard Valley, and Bill Klennert.

Secretary's report was given. Mavis Gowell made motion to accept the minutes, motion second by Kathlyn Krammer, motion passed.

A brief report was given that Santa's visit went very well and many children stopped in to visit with him. Thank you to the Assembly of God Church for letting us use their facility and to Sam & Joell Miranda for what they donated for that day.

Greg Bounds gave a report on the Community Calendar that would be posted on the web; it would list events for Hill City, Swatara, Jacobson and Palisade area. It would be on a web-site, and would be rolling calendar for the year. Greg would update the information for it monthly. It has been listed as being on chamber web-site. It was discussed what would be cost for the chamber to have it on our web-site. Greg Bounds was given permission to contact Kim Niles, who does the chamber web-site, to discuss what she felt would be the amount of time she would have to put in monthly updating info he would give her, and what would our cost be for that. It was also discussed as it could possibly done on the school web-site and just a link from chamber web-site to that web-site. Greg will report back at the next meeting what he has found out.

It was discussed doing a Snow Sculpture Contest in Hill City. It had been done in the past, quite a few years ago. Possible tying it in with weekend of Lion's ice fishing contest. It was also discussed of possibly doing a medallion hunt at that time. Dave Lange will check with Tim & Randy Washburn to see if they are planning on doing one this winter, if they are we will not.

Tom Fastland made a motion to do snow sculpture contest, to be judged on Sat. Feb. 14. Prizes would be \$50 for 1st place, \$25 for 2nd place, and \$10 for 3rd place; Greg Bounds second the motion, the motion passed.

Dave Lange and Mavis Gowell are on the committee to set it up. Bambi will make posters to post around town. Anyone may make a sculpture around town, (youth groups, kids of any age, adults) Let Chamber/Dave Lange know where your sculpture is so it may be judged.

Hollie Hanson was not able to be at the meeting, but she volunteered to be in charge of the Children's Easter Egg Hunt to be held Sat. April 11. She has 1 bike lined up already for the hunt. She will let people know closer to the time what she needs for volunteers to help.

Bambi Lange made a motion for Chamber Scholarship to be \$250.00, motion 2nd by Ella Kingsley, motion passed. Bambi Lange will type up letter for the school counselor to hand out to students. Scholarship is for \$250.00 to be given to student after they complete their 1st quarter/semester and give us a copy of their transcript.

Chuck Hodge gave report from the Constitution/membership committee. The constitution is good and copy of it will be available to every member at the next meeting. The committee is working on proposed changes to the bylaws. They will present copy of bylaws at the next meeting along with proposed changes.

It was also discussed on ways to promote members/businesses in area to join. When businesses join they have access to being listed on the chamber website and if they like link to their web-site. Discussed charging other businesses if they want to be listed on website and are not members of the chamber.

Treasurer's report was given. There is \$5,682.14 in the chamber checking account, only outstanding bill have at this time is \$44.33 for electricity for the pavilion. All the money was used that we had gotten from Aitkin Tourism for promoting "Art in the Park" that we did in September.

Bill Klennert questioned an amount that he was paid last summer for doing finishing work on the pavilion. It was paid in July (right before the 4th) with bill chamber had at Roadside. Then Bill had later presented the receipt to Janet and she had paid that, so it ended up being paid twice. Janet had requested that it show up on Roadside account that it had been paid in July and credit that \$200.00 to the Chamber account at Roadside.

Greg Bounds made a motion to accept the treasure's report, motion second by Bambi Lange, motion passed.

Tom Fastland had requested that the Chamber move the start time of the parade to 11, instead of 10:30. Last year they were doing announcing with the ending of the races and further down the street their was some announcing going on with pre-parade.

Bambi Lange made a motion to change parade time to 11am, motion second by Mark Meyer, motion passed.

July 4th 2009 weekend events were discussed. It was decided it would be nice to have theme be "Our City and Our Lake". Dave Lange had contacted several ski clubs about possibly doing a water show on Hill Lake for us for that weekend. It was also discussed could have canoe races and such on various parts of Hill Lake. It would be nice to make Hill Lake focal point for us.

Several committees were set up, more need to be set up and need volunteers to serve on committees:

Advertisement/Entertainment - Chuck Hodge
Greg Bounds

Flotilla Parade – Blue Moon Resort

Buttons – chamber decided to get quote from Kristi Rollins for price (she did nice job last year & very reasonable price) Bambi will get quote from her.

Vendors – Bambi Lange volunteered to send out letter to vendors, but does not want to be in charge of setting them up in Bear Park. Chamber voted to set fee of \$150.00 for food vendor and \$50 for craft vendor. It doesn't matter if vendor is there for 1 day or the whole weekend, fee is the same.

Finances/Donations –

Street Games – Kathy Bounds said Christensen Family will do foot races and egg toss. Still need someone to be in charge of other games (turtle races, pie eating contest, etc.)

Carla Gilson gave a report to the Chamber on the new Thrift Shop in Hill City. It has been well received by the community. They started with \$2,600.00 from donations and grants. Expenditures for first month were \$2,602.44 including insurance. They average \$84 in sales each day they are open. They are always looking for more donations to it whether items or monetary.

It was decided Chamber would like to do “Art in the Park” again this coming fall. It was discussed when would be good time to do it. Labor Day weekend there would be more people in the area, but would there also be Chamber members around then that would want to donate their time. It was decided to let the “Art in the Park” committee to set the date. Committee is Barb Majerus, Hollie Hanson and Kathlyn Krammer.

Tom Fastland discussed like to have Hill City become involved National Night Out – “Take Back the Night”. It was thought this would be good event for the Chamber to become involved in. Tom Fastland and Janet Hatfield are on the committee for setting this event up. It could include community picnic, family events, etc.

Next meeting will be Wed. February 18 at 6pm at the meeting room at Woodland Bank.

No further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by,
Bambi Lange secretary.