



The mission of the Whitehall Chamber of Commerce is to bring individuals, businesses and organizations together to enrich our community.

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING

March 9, 2023 12:00 p.m.
Borden's Conference Room

The Whitehall Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting was called to order at 12:04 PM by President Liz Pullman. In attendance were: Liz Pullman (President/Ledger), Dana Brunet (VP/Pepper Tree Deli), Sherre Mead (Treasurer/Numb3rs), Carey Burnside (Board Member/Arctic Heat), Kylie Hansen (Board Member/Whitehall PTSA), Anna Coleman (Board Member/Starlight Electric), Sharon Machel (Board Member/Vendor Liaison), and Chiara Schober (Chamber Coordinator)

Current Business

a. Treasurer's Report

Sherre

We received a letter from the IRS regarding the 2019 - 990. Sherre will continue to monitor this situation. Sherre will revamp the Chamber QuickBooks after Tax Season.

b. Chamber Bucks Update

Liz

RMB needs the minutes stating that the Chamber is dissolving the Chamber Bucks account with them. We will bring the Chamber Bucks in house to sell and reimburse at the Chamber. We plan to debut new bucks at the Easter Egg Hunt.

c. Easter Egg Hunt

Liz

The Easter Egg hunt is April 1st. There will be an egg stuffing party March 20th at Settings or the Western Legacy Center. We have over 2000 eggs to fill. There are 1000 stuffed with prizes through Oriental Trading.

d. Black Tie Blue Jeans

Liz

The Chamber will send an official letter to JVCF stating that the Chamber will sever ties with JVCF with regards to Black Tie Blue Jeans. The Board wants to look at doing a Volunteer/Member Appreciation Dinner in late summer or early in the fall. There was discussion about a Board Retreat.

e. Business After Hours

Liz

Liz will host the April Biz After Hours but will open up to the larger body to see if anyone else would like to host it. Chiara will ask the businesses from February if they want to do the April Biz After Hours.

Dana made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 12:57 p.m. and Seconded by Anna. Motion carried.

GENERAL MEETING

March 9, 2023 1:00 p.m.
Borden's Conference Room

The Whitehall Chamber of Commerce General Meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM by President Liz Pullman. In attendance were: Liz Pullman (President/Ledger), Dana Brunet (VP/Pepper Tree Deli), Sherre Mead (Treasurer/Numb3rs Bookkeeping), Carey Burnside (Board Member/Arctic Heat), Kylie Hansen (Board Member/PTSA), Sharon Machel (Board Member/Vendor Liaison), Chiara Schober (Chamber Coordinator), Laurel Ovitt (MT Artist), Tom Harrington (Whitehall Community Center/Vets), Brandy Yates (MT Jam & Candles), Mike Ildvad (1st Call Heating & AC), Philip Dooley (Expedition Church), Greg Caudry (Jefferson Inn), Bruce Binkowski (Jefferson County Events), Whitney Smith (Pierce Carpet Mill), Ruth Lott (River Ranch Confections), Lindsey Graham (JLDC) John Kries, & John McEagher.

Approval of Minutes

Tom made a motion to approve the February 2023 minutes. Seconded by Brandy. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report Overview

Sherre stated that the Main operating account has a balance of \$69,220.52. In the Rodeo account there is \$25,441.37. In the Savings account there is \$10,016.30. Total \$104,678.19.

Guest Reports

CTAC Report - Tom Harrington

They are working on freezing lines due to the extreme cold weather.

Extension/JLDC Report - Lindsey Graham

Lindsey is working with AJAY MT and the Whitehall School to have students work over the summer. Sign up is by March 17th.

Gold Junction Presents - Liz Pullman

GJP will have 406 Woodwinds here in May to present Peter and the Wolf. The Star Theatre will host the Christopher Nolan Spotlight series in March with 4 films showing at 6:30 pm on Thursdays.

Jefferson County Events - Bruce Binkowski

The real season for Jefferson County Events is June through October. Contact Bruce if you want to have your events listed on the county website DiscoverJeffersonMT.org. Upcoming events for Jefferson County: Clacy Days, The Governor's Cup Run, Frontier Days, Rockin' the Rivers, Country Jam, Rappin' the Rivers, etc.

Mural Report - John Kries

April 1st we will have access to the space in the Town Hall for Kit to start work on the Murals for Rocky Mountain Bank and the K-Bar. We received the grant from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation.

Western Legacy Center Report - Tom Harrington

WLC is moving forward with the remodel. Bid requests have been sent out. The first display will be the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame. WLC has their Tripadvisor and other sites up and running. The Author's Night was a success.

Whitehall PTSA Report - Kylie Hansen

The PTSA Money Wars brought in \$166.06 in the first two days. First grade is in first place. This is for grades Kindergarten - 5th grade. The winning class will have a pizza party and extra recess. The PTSA is hosting a Cowboy Dinner and Dance 5 - 8 pm on March 31st the cost is \$5 per person or \$20 for a family of up to 6 people for dinner. Dinner is served in the School Cafeteria and the Dance is in the TIA Gym.

Whitehall Sustainability Committee - Liz Pullman

The Grant Cycle is November to February 1st. Two applications are being revised to be sent to GSM. One is for the Town Rec Complex and the other is for Gold Junction Presents multi use flexible stage unit for the Star Theatre. WSC has a second grant cycle that will be open online July to September 1st.

Committee Reports

Coordinator Report - Chiara Schober

The Southwest Montana Chocolate-Lovers Trail is underway. Get your business on the trail for free with some requirements. Montana has the most Bookstores per capita. Reading Leaves in Townsend is looking to do a Bookstore Trail. Top 5 states: FL, TX, CA, WI, and IL Interests: History & Ghost tours, Wildlife Viewing, Hot Springs, L&C Trail, and Regional Lodging. SouthwestMT.com has over 20,000 views on the Continental Divide Trail in the photo gallery. Brand MT is moving forward with a joint venture with Locl.io and is looking to pull business information from Locl.io for the State website. Joining Locl.io is Free right now. The next Visit Southwest Montana Meeting is 10am Thursday, March 23 at Pintlers Portals in Anaconda.

I have been working on updating the Member Directory on our website. We have 86 members. The Montana Association of Chamber Executives M.A.C.E. Spring Conference is at the end of April. Please let me know if there is anything you would like me to ask questions about.

Current Business

Easter Egg & Scavenger Hunt - Liz Pullman

The Egg Hunt is coming up April 1st. There is a call out to the membership to reach out for donations in the way of cash, candy or egg stuffing. We will be rolling out the new updated Chamber Bucks program as Easter Prizes. We will have the Easter Bunny available for a photo opportunity. Kylie has a backdrop idea for the photo shoot.

Black Tie Blue Jeans - Liz Pullman

Only the 3 people who resigned, not the whole JVCF Board. The Chamber Board has decided not to move forward with BTBJ. Our community just came out in force to support Samara's family fundraiser. The Board felt it was too soon to try to ask for more from our community. We will look into other avenues to recognize members.

Business After Hours - Liz Pullman

Ruth Lott offered to host the April After Hours at her home. The Board meeting will be at Bordens at 5 pm with the General meeting and After Hours at Ruth's at 6 pm. We will look at doing our July After Hours at the Star Theatre with Kylie.

Frontier Days - Liz Pullman

FD will be competing with Country Jam this year. The Chamber needs to form a Committee. Liz will make huge posters to get out to businesses as soon as possible. The question was brought up about getting a banner at Country Jam. We will invite Wyldman Rodeo back, but the Chamber will stay out of it.

Additional Business/Public Comment

Adjournment

Carey made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:15 pm, Dana seconded, motion carried.

Submitted by:

Chiara Schober