

Claresholm & District Chamber of Commerce
Minutes
April 20, 2010

- attendance: 22
- meeting called to order by Chamber President, Russell Sawatzky
- additions to agenda: Calendar: Community Symposium May 11th, \$45 per person sponsored by Atco. They are looking for more registrations. Talk to Rob Macodrum at Atco for more info.
- Terry Daniel from Fort Macleod, Empress Theatre wished to be added to the agenda
- approval of agenda: Don Leonard moved the agenda be accepted as amended

Approval of March 2010 minutes

- no errors or omissions
- moved by Glen Alm
- we will continue to e-mail the minutes to members as everyone thought this worked

Calendar:

- Volunteer Appreciation/Citizen of the Year: Apr 21, 2010
- see addition above

Committee Reports:

Trade Fair report: final report by Don Leonard: PROFIT \$6424.91

-show services fee will be \$800 more in 2011. Booth prices will stay same. Don expects about the same revenue for next year. Motion to pay off Ringrose Park by Russell, 2nded by Carmelle Steel. Voted: passed.

Memberships: Sue Gour, Treasurer reports 91 memberships have been paid to date: last year: 115. \$6770 in membership revenue so far this year. Sue has hand delivered forms to former members and also to potential new members, but none have come back yet. The deadline to become a Chamber member for this year is officially 30th April, so those who join after this date will not be in the phone book. Sue's goal is to get 125 total members this year.

Financial report: Sue Gour. Current balance: \$21,959.88 right now for all accounts. Sue will pay off the full balance owing for the Ringrose Park. Renee Chartrand donated \$100 to beautification/Ringrose Park. Sue will send him a thank you note.

Mexican Fiesta: No formal report as Roxanne is not here. A letter was received from the Town of Claresholm approving the use of downtown lot and also the arena if needed as an alternative in the event of inclement weather. Don reports: liquor license application

has been submitted.

-John Vanderfluit from the Lazy J Motel offered some tables for the Chamber's use: 2-1/2 x 5 feet, folding, some smaller tables and some stacking chairs. Don: need to seat 300-500. Need 30 tables and also chairs. We have access to some chairs. We will let the Fiesta committee decide/follow up on this offer.

The committee will meet again in May.

Town Report: David Moore reports that the town cleanup continues. Tendering began on the capital projects - 8th St W and the Cottonwoods area water drainage projects.

Budget/millrate committee is working on setting the mill rate.

MD of Willow Creek: Glen Alm reports the new fire truck is now at the MD. It is a pumper/tanker and is ready to go. The local parks are scheduled to open on the long weekend in May – Clear Lake, Pine Coulee, etc.

New Business:

-Russell reminded the Chamber that it has been 2 years since the Ringrose Park project began. It will be paid for in full this month – great job! News coverage is to be requested and Russell suggested Don Leonard be available for a photo op.

-Sr. Pro Rodeo – message received by Russell from Kathy Grant of the CSPRA (625-4081) . This event will be held here this year. This association has requested a \$1000 donation, as in the past. Hopefully she can attend next month's meeting to present this request formally.

-Shannon Clay suggested by e-mail that the Chamber purchase cloth shopping bags in an effort to promote local shopping with an imprint: “we support local businesses”. Would the bags be given away or would there be a charge?

David Moore thought this was a good idea. Russell suggested perhaps the Chamber could partner with the town and include their logo. David suggests we present this idea in a letter to the town when a price is obtained.

Motion to investigate the cost: by David and 2nded by Bernie Feodoroff. Russell will draft this letter and obtain a price.

May Chamber conference-Lethbridge: Russell is to attend. The cost is \$341.25.

Correspondence:

-The Group statement - \$269 income for the chamber

-Hanging Basket Program – the forms were received today and e-mailed to Chamber

members. Forms are also available at Pharmasave or Co-operators. The cost is \$100 per basket.

-Claresholm Relay for Life committee recruitment. This is a Cancer fundraiser – letter received. Please see Russell at Co-operators for more details or to see the pkg.

Communities in Bloom: Arnold McAulay reminded us that May 1st to 8th is “Pitch in Canada” week. Claresholm citizens will be encouraged to spend 20 minutes picking up garbage in the downtown area on Sat. May 1st at 1:00 pm. There will be an announcement in tomorrow's paper. Nancy to e-mail poster to Chamber members – Arnold to e-mail it to her. Pitch in Canada started 35 yrs ago. Schools will also be contacted by the committee. How much garbage was picked up? There will be an effort to measure the amount of garbage. Glen Alm suggested that the 4-H organization be contacted to get involved as part of their mandate is to provide community service.

Terry Daniels: Susan Burrows-Johnson, who works at the Galt Museum, is trying to put together an inventory of all the attractions in southern AB. This “directory” is being compiled through Edmonton. We need someone who will put together a list of attractions near Claresholm and area. John Vanderfluit’s reports that his daughter works for the Galt Museum also and has a degree in this area. Some suggestions that were given to Terry were: The Claresholm Museum-Ray Trimble or Tove Mifflin might be contacted. Noreen Bishop was also named as an great resource person in this area of tourism. If anyone has any input for this project, please contact Susan directly.

Kinettes project: a reminder of the project to enhance the park on the east side –Sat. May 8th. Proceeds from this project will go to Cystic Fibrosis. Tickets can be obtained at Ranchland Embroidery.

Don Leonard asked re: the MD building’s use and what Doug Umscheid’s plan is for the future. Doug reports that the building is currently being rented by the LDS church temporarily. Office space will be available.

Adjournment motioned by Linda Petryshen.

Next meeting: Tues May 18th.