



**Ephrata Chamber of Commerce**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
February 11, 2015

**Attendance:** Annetta Paolinelli, Deb Adams, Peggy Muchlinski, Jeannie Olson, Alayna Lodi, Kevin Danby, Valli Millard, Danielle Langley, Kerry Moser, Roger Johnson

**Call to order:** 7:02 am

- 1. Presentation by FFA & 4-H:** Libby Anderson with the USDA office spoke to the board about the Ag Boosters program here in Ephrata and how it aims to provide equal support to all FFA and 4-H members. Valli added that this equal support is done by the Boosters bidding on animals that are not going for much more than the floor price at the Grant County Fair. This is done to help these kids make some money off of the large effort they have put into raising their animals. Libby on behalf of the Ag Boosters thanked the Chamber as well as the business owners who have donated and helped with the efforts of the Ag Boosters. Libby also spoke to the group about FSA loans and the benefits they have for kids in the area trying to build credit and afford the cost of owning a livestock animal. The board also had a pleasure of listening to multiple students speak about how FFA and 4-H has impacted their lives and what the support of the Boosters has meant to them.
- 2. Review of Meeting Minutes:** The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and there were three changes that needed to be made. Kerry needed to be added onto the list of members who attended, it was added in the Miracle on Main Street discussion “it was suggested to extend the parade around to C Street”, and the number 6 was changed to six. Minutes were approved.
- 3. Profit and Loss:** The profit and loss was reviewed and approved.
- 4. Committees Reports**
  - a. Ephrata Chamber Business Connections :** The ECBC had a planning meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup> where the group reviewed the purpose and the mission of ECBC to determine that they were still on track. Deb reported that there was potential to revamp the car show for Basin Summer Sounds and this year there will only be one Wine Walk, which will be on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The group seemed excited that the Wine Walk is encouraging business participation and getting people through the doors of our local businesses. At the meeting it was discussed how the group wanted to have an event every month, the group has now shifted towards focusing on a few big events and doing them really well. The group ads are going well and there will be a replicated letter of the one sent out last year sharing with businesses the ways that they can participate. Something that is new for 2015 is the booklet that the group is working at putting together. This booklet will hold business stories, potentially recipes, coupons, and will

replace the holiday booklet. Cost is still being discussed along with charging people to be in the book. What has been suggested is to charge non Chamber members as well as place major ads on the back of the book that businesses can purchase. The hope is that this booklet will show how the Chamber is working for the businesses.

- b. **Car Show-** There was a car show meeting on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup>. At the meeting it was decided to expand the show to include toys that had wheels, changing the name to be the “Car and Toy Show”. Roger volunteered to be the Treasurer for the group and Deb will be the liaison between the City as well as the Basin Summer Sounds committee. The group decided not to donate proceeds towards a non-profit this year. An idea to find a well-known personality to invite was suggested at the meeting. The poker walk will not be happening this year. The next meeting will be Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 PM at Granco. The group is still looking for volunteers and every person involved will be in charge of some aspect of the show so that one person is not burdened with everything.
- c. **Basin Summer Sounds** –The next meeting will be February 19<sup>th</sup>, 7 AM at the hospital. Right now Alayna is working on grants from Walmart, the Columbia Basin Foundation, and Paul Lauzier. Phil Biladeau has some great ideas of artists to perform, but it will all depend on sponsorships and how much money the event can get from donations.
- d. **Auction** –Danielle reported planning for the auction was moving right along. Annetta, Ayla, and Danielle have been heavily calling businesses for silent and live auction donations. Plans for the royal table were discussed.

## 5. Old Business

- a. **Phone Directory-** The directory is underway; there is only one more spot that needs to be filled. It was discussed to put the directory as in insert in the hand delivered Grant County Journals.

## 6. New Business

- a. **New Chamber Members-** There are three new Chamber members, SunCity Marine Product, Cannarail Station, and Yunique by Desirea
- b. **New Board Member Discussion-** There was a discussion on voting Crystal Castro in as a board member. The board took a vote and unanimously voted her in.

7. **Business After Hours-** The next Business After Hours will be on April 14<sup>th</sup> at Washington Trust Bank. Danielle would find out if they plan on having alcohol.

8. **For the Good of the Order-** It was brought up to the group to increase hours for Ayla and Danielle until the auction, due to the large amount of extra work and time needed to put together the event. This was voted on by the board and approved.

9. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 AM.