



Ephrata Chamber of Commerce
Board Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2015

Attendance: Annetta Paolinelli, Deb Adams, Peggy Muchlinski, Jeannie Olson, Alayna Lodi, Kevin Danby, Valli Millard, Danielle Langley, Kerry Moser, Roger Johnson, Cory Pickeral, Ray Towry, Crystal Castro

Guests: Deputy Earney and George Ahrend

Call to order: 7:04 AM

1. **Presentation by Deputy Earney with Grant County Sheriff's Department:**
Deputy Earney spoke to board about working to put together a canine unit in Grant County. The goal is to launch four patrol dogs by fall/winter of 2015. Deputy Earney expressed that the Sheriff's Department is looking for donors to fund the start-up of the canine unit and are open to ideas for fundraising. Cost for this endeavor is over \$100,000. Right now the department has enough funds to purchase one dog, but they would like to raise enough that they could carry out the whole plan.
2. **New Business:** New Business was moved to the top of the agenda so that the Empty store front committee could be discussed.
 - a. **Empty Store Front Committee:** Deb and George spoke about the new endeavor of making our town more attractive by sprucing up the empty buildings on Basin Street. Ideas were discussed such as taxing landlords of the empty store fronts at a higher right to entice them to populate their buildings or creating incentives for landlords who attempt to keep their buildings populated. First step is to get a few members of the community involved so that a plan can be put into place. A few members of the community will be approached to see if they would be interested in participating.
3. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** Corrections to be made on Minutes of the Last Meeting include: Spelling of Biladeau to Bilodeau, in Old Business the Phone Directory in changed to an, and Sun City Marine Product to be changed to Sun City Marine Products. Motion was made and approved to accept the corrected minutes.
4. **Profit and Loss:** The profit and loss was reviewed and approved.
5. **Committees Reports**
 - a. **Ephrata Chamber Business Connections :** A letter will be sent out to the businesses to encourage participation again this year. The ECBC Main Event this year will be the Basin Summer Sounds Car Show where money will go towards the Chamber instead of a non-profit donation, as done in the past. Potential recipient of the Car Show funds is the Think, Shop, Buy Campaign but that has not been decided yet. ECBC is still planning on putting together

a booklet which will go to print by October 1st of 2015 so that it is ready for the holiday season. This could be a potential money maker for ECBC if ad spaces are sold on the inside front cover, inside back cover, and outside back cover at \$300 apiece.

- b. **Car Show-** A logo was designed since last year there was no logo for the group to reuse. The logo is basically a wheel and reads "Show and Shine". There will be three sponsor groups: Platinum, Gold, and Silver. As of right now there are seven Gold level sponsors. A change for this year will be instead of 50 trophies like last year, there will only be 15. There will be one sponsor per trophy and the plan is to have sponsors in by the 23rd of March.
- c. **Basin Summer Sounds** – Phil said the line-up is just about set and is doing a good job with the budget. Next meeting is Thursday, the 19th.
- d. **Auction** – With the auction just a week and a half away the committee is on their final push to get donations and items in. The board was asked to volunteer if possible to set up for the auction Friday night at 6PM. The plan to have a PowerPoint show during the live auction so bidders can see visuals of the items they are bidding on was discussed, but Danielle said she needed someone to help out with the creation of the PowerPoint due to lack of time for her and Ayla to put it together. Danielle will contact Wes Crago to see if he would be interested in helping out.

6. Old Business

- a. **Phone Directory-** Directory proofs were handed out to the committee to review and make corrections if needed. Danielle will go through and double check phone numbers to make sure they are correct before Kerry prints them.
7. **Business After Hours:** The next Business After Hours will be on April 14th at Washington Trust Bank, alcohol will be provided. Farmers Insurance will host Business After Hours in May which will be the 12th of the month.
8. **For the Good of the Order:** Danielle let the board know that the grand opening for the Community Dental Clinic in Ephrata will take place on _____
9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 AM.