

Harrington Area Chamber of Commerce

January 4, 2017 Minutes

The Harrington Area Chamber of Commerce was called to order at 12:03 PM by President, Tim Tipton. Those individuals present were: Allen Barth, Bunny Haugan, Cindy Hasse, Kathy Hoob, Cherie MacClelland, David Michaelson, Cassandra Pfaffle-Dick, Jill Plaskon, Paula Pike and Marge Womack.

December's minutes were accepted as recorded.

Cindy Hasse, Treasurer reported \$5,127.67 in Checking and \$3,594.51 in Savings and was accepted as reported.

Old Business

Santa's picture goodie bags were well received. It was agreed upon that we'll reduce the number of bags from 50 to 35 due to having so many left over for the past couple of years. We filled 36 food bags for the Seniors and community members in need but will try to get a more accurate count and keep the food bags to around 25 to 30 next year. Cassandra said that one of the cheerleaders helped deliver the bags in her uniform, even though it was quite cold. People over all were very thankful and appreciative for the food bags. The baker from Ritzville made all the baked goods for just \$50, which the Chamber paid for to cover her costs. This is to thank our seniors. Santa picture bags were also really appreciated.

New Business

Tim Tipton introduced the new officers. Tim Tipton, President, Sharon Nighswonger, Vice President, Cindy Hasse, Treasurer, Paula Pike, Secretary.

Cassandra asked that we have a budget for the Holiday Food Bags going forward. Kathy Hoob said the budget should be what monies are allocated for the project from donations and monies in the allocated fund. Cindy sends out donation letters to the businesses in October. Some businesses typically give the same \$ amount each year. Typically, we have between \$800 and \$1,000 donated each year for the baskets.

Tim mentioned the Chamber newsletter that was sent out with the Membership Applications. Cassandra originally came up with the idea and turned it over to the new directors. Tim and Paula, with Cassandra's input put the final touches on it. The newsletter will probably go out quarterly to promote upcoming Chamber and community events. Tim will be touching base and or interviewing businesses and they will be highlighted in the newsletter. Bunny suggested printing out several copies and leaving them at the Post Office and City Hall for community members and visitors to read.

Discussion of possibly creating a brochure with a listing of community business and contact information. Further discussion in future meetings and there is word that the PDA is working on something like this.

Membership dues are to be paid by 1/31/17 to give members the incentive to have voting rights. The invoices will be sent out in November going forward. There is some leeway this year due to the due letters being sent out later than expected. There will be a few extra membership apps left with Bunny at City Hall to go in the Welcome Packets.

The Bi-law Committee should be able to finish the changes on 1/18. The plan is to have updated bi-laws presented at the February meeting and voted on for approval.

The vendors for Cruzin' Harrington will be the responsibility of the Chamber. Heather Slack will send the letters to the vendors within the next month. Vendor applications and fliers are in process. Tim suggested we add the Yard Sale sign-up form to the mailing. Cassandra has set a (workable date) of April 14th, 2017 as the deadline for those who want to have their Yard Sale listed on the map.

Cindy mentioned that all of the vendors and events are listed on the advertisements that will begin going out.

The suggestion was made to combine Cruzin' Harrington and the Fall Festival on the vendor forms. This will allow them to get both events on their calendars and potentially save some money. If they register for just one event the vendor fee will be \$25 and if they register for both it will be a fee of \$40 total. There will not be any refunds if they change their mind or are a no show. Cassandra made the motion and David Michaelson seconded. The motioned was approved.

Paula mentioned doing a parade of the cars but Allen Barth said it would be too difficult to coordinate.

Cassandra mentioned doing fund raisers to raise money toward community events, hopefully to make them bigger. Tim mentioned trying to encourage people to possibly participate in bocce ball, croquet, horse shoe toss, etc. at the RV Park. Kathy said the Chamber used to sponsor a Street Dance. A discussion of keeping the road blocked off where the vendors are during the day for the dance area. The suggestion of having students/teachers from the school DJ to help cut costs.

Cruzin' Harrington Planning Leaders will be:

Cindy Hasse and Allen Barth – handing the Advertising

Heather Slack – handing the vendor letters and vendors the day of event

Paula Pike – handling the Quilt Show (with help from Bunny)

First meeting for Cruzin' Harrington Planning Meeting is February 8th, 2017 directly after the February Chamber meeting at City Hall.

Cassandra made a motion to change the Downtown Revitalization account to "Community Events". Kathy Hoob seconded. The motioned was approved.

Cindy mentioned applying for a grant to help pay for the Community Signs. She has some other obligations so Tim has offered to take on the project and submit the grant. The grant could pay up to \$5,000 or \$6,000 with the Chamber matching funds. It was suggested that the signs be moved to better locations for greater visibility. Cindy suggested the use of solar lights as well.

Kathy made a motion to provide \$200 to the City of Harrington to purchase toilet paper for the bathrooms in the park. Cassandra seconded. The motion was approved.

Cindy mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce is now back on the Washington State records. She is working on getting a 501K status so that donations will be tax deductible.

Meeting adjourned at 1:06 PM

Next meeting will be held on February 8, 2017 in the City Hall. 12 PM