

Harrington Area Chamber of Commerce

Approved Minutes

February 8, 2017

The Harrington Chamber of Commerce was called to order at 12:02 PM by President, Tim Tipton. Those individuals present were: Tiffany Aldous, Allen Barth, Bunny Haugan, Cade Clarke, Jay Gossett, Cindy Haase, Lexi Hottell, Cassie Nixon, Cassandra Pfaffle-Dick, Jill Plaskon, Paula Pike and Mark Stedman, Heather Slack.

January's minutes were accepted as recorded.

Cindy Haase, Treasurer reported \$5,707.67 in Checking and \$3,594.51 in Savings and was accepted as reported.

Old Business

It was agreed that Cindy would give the City of Harrington, in the amount of \$200.00, for expenses incurred for the public bathrooms at the park. These monies will come from the bathroom fund going forward.

Cindy has submitted the grant application for the City Signs. It'll be a couple of months before we hear back if we will be given any monies to offset the costs of the signs.

New Business

Tim welcomed Lexi Hottell to the meeting. She introduced herself and her two friends, Tiffany Aldous and Cassie Nixon. They'll be opening an Art Studio and Home Décor business/Internet Sales in Jay Draper's old building. They intend to open in time for Cruzin' Harrington.

Tim announced that the revised By-Laws have been completed and that he would be emailing them out to all the Chamber Members for review. The revised By-Laws will be voted on at the March Chamber meeting.

Tim talked about the vacant lot on the corner of 3rd Street and Willis, owned by the City. He asked if the Chamber wanted to present ideas to the City Council for potential things that could be done with the lot. Paula suggested that it be made into a mini skate park, basketball area for the kids downtown. This would help with them playing on the sidewalks. Bunny suggested Tim attend the City Council meeting that evening and present the Chamber's interest in pursuing a project for the lot. Allen made the motion and Jill 2nd.

Heather presented the Vendor registration flier for approval. It has both the Cruzin' Harrington and Fall Festival events combined. \$25.00 for one event or \$40.00 for both. No refunds.

Heather suggested that we need to have two fliers for Cruzin'; one for the Car Show and one for the Chamber sponsored events. Tim feels the Chamber can do a lot more to help promote the event. A budget of \$500 was agreed upon, at the January meeting, for the advertising costs for Cruzin' Harrington. Cindy has secured a bit of free advertising from the Huckleberry Press, they'll place small ads in blank spaces when possible. Cassandra mentioned that the EDC is doing advertising on radio and in newspapers for Cruzin' Harrington and the Fall Festival.

Mark Stedman announced that the formerly known Landmark Apartments (now named Starting Place) are just about ready for new renters. They've replaced all the flooring, painted the interior and lighting. Ladies for the Community Church are making new curtains for all the rooms. Two new dryers were purchased for the laundry room. All the appliances are to be cleaned and sanitized. There will be 4 – 1 bedroom apartments and 4 studios. The facility will be geared toward veterans with a very reasonable rent that can be subsidized by doing the yardwork, taking care of the facility or volunteering in town. The apartments will be smoke and animal free unless it's a service animal.

Tim shared with Lexi that we have a Newsletter that will go out to all Chamber Members. We're planning on 4 issues a year, Winter, Spring, Summer and late Fall. Paula will email Lexi the membership form for both her business and for Dennis Hottell's business.

Cindy will be filling our 501C3 with the State and IRS. This will make the Chamber a registered nonprofit organization. Paula is providing Cindy with the board members complete addresses for the paperwork.

Cindy mentioned that her cousin Koby does metal fabrication and he is going to provide us with a bid to sandblast and powder coat the City Signs. Cindy is going to email Lexi the sign information as well so that Rough Draft Ranch can place a bid as well. We will also be looking into Solar Lighting for the signs to make them more visible at night. The plan is to have both signs done for both ends of town.

The Chamber members all agreed that if there is an issue, complaint or concern that impacts the Chamber, it will be addressed during the meetings or immediately following and not shared with the general community. It only causes hurt and dissention and degrades the Chamber's credibility. Meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM

Next meeting will be held on March 1, 2017, Location: Harrington City Hall at 12 PM

Approved by Chamber Members

**Paula S. Pike
Chamber Secretary**