

Exira Chamber Meeting
August 9, 2011
5 PM City Council meeting room

Present: Abby Rasmussen, Amber Wilson, Brenda Bengard, Jen Marxen, Riann Hansen, Katie Rasmussen, Carol Lea Rasmussen, Joan Shaffer, Margy Hansen, Sandy Bauer, Judy Wheeler, Traci Riesgaard, and Judy Bintner.

Old Business

- A. July 4th: Community Club will be meeting Monday, August 15, 2011 at 7 PM. All are encouraged to come with ideas
- B. Grocery Store: subcommittee will meet Tuesday, August 23, 2011 at 6 PM in the City Council meeting room
 1. Will receive reports from:
 - a. Peggy Toft – conversation with Katie Johnson
 - b. Margy Hansen – business plan
 - c. Abby Rasmussen – Hometown Grocery Stores, organic produce/Oakland, METC interest in office space and what plans they may have for a store in Elk Horn
 2. Riann did report that school superintendent did believe that we could establish a work-to-school type program with students available about 2 hours per day (students would have to be paid if “employed” during non-school hours; has not been able to make contact with Landman’s Bank to check on their interest in office space
 3. Subcommittee will meet with Nishna Valley Food Corp after all data is collected
- C. Gazebo: bike rack and table have been ordered
 1. Signage: Carol Lea showed samples of sign that will be put near gazebo; chamber recommends 2 sided, cedar color sign from Kirby Built at \$635
- D. Fall Festival (9/24/2011 9AM – 3PM)
 1. Sarah Paulsen (Exira Community Club) would welcome any suggestions/help and encourages those interested to attend meeting August 15th at 7:30 PM
 2. Community member suggested that we may want to incorporate a garage sale/flea market into the day
 3. Abby R. will look into “bouncy” games for use in park
 4. Carol Lea will check with Bart to see if he is interested in doing hay ride and pumpkin toss this year
 5. Peggy Toft had expressed interest in forming a hay maze
 6. Suggested asking Kathy Meyers to do face painting; Audubon Peppy Pals or Sarah Zach’s 4-Hers may be interested in hosting something in the park

New Business

- A. City Council report (Brenda Bengard)
 1. Casey’s applied and approved for hard liquor license
 2. Susie’s Flowers renewed wine license
 3. City will be demolishing the Jim Meese property and Mark McLeran property within next 30 days
 4. City council election will take place and several are up for reelection
 5. City has applied for grant from Region Xii for sidewalk repair
 6. No news as to what will be done with old elementary building; currently being used for storage
- B. Carol Lea reminded attendees that grant applications for the Southwest Endowment are due 9/1/11

1. Library is planning on applying; Riann suggested that school may want to apply for money to be used to purchase AED's
- C. Carol Lea reported that Chad Schrek is the new rep; he resides in Carroll
- D. Free Clinic going well; the numbers have slowly increased with each session; drawing patients from surrounding communities
- E. Uncle Jerry's will be closing as of September 1 (liquor license will be due for renewal at that time); no information as to what may go into that building

The next Chamber meeting will be September 13, 2011 at 5 pm in the Council meeting room.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Shaffer, Recording Secretary