

Exira Chamber Meeting

July 13, 2011

12 noon at Washington St. Hardwood and Tea Room

Present: Abby Rasmussen, Jen Marxen, Peggy Toft, Amber Wilson, Carol Lea Rasmussen, Judy Wheeler, Judy Bintner, Marge Hansen, Sandy Bauer, and Joan Shaffer.

Lunch served by Sheila Kearney and Dick Smetana.

Treasurer's report: \$1451.00

Received \$70 in vendor fees for \$100 challenge. Vendors will give away 1 \$100 grand prize and Chamber will give away 1 \$100 grand prize. Drawing will be between 9/1 and 15. Judy Bintner will check for "Chamber Bucks" on her computer. Thanks to Jen for developing advertising flyer.

Old Business

A. July 4<sup>th</sup> report: Judy Bintner

1. Parade entries about the same; horse entries down due to owners fearful of disease; parade in competition with Massena this year
2. No contract signed for 2012 carnival; considering using same carnival with modifications
3. Rodeo organizers would like to have rodeo on July 4, 2012; downsides – can't have beer license at 2 venues; traffic lining up for parade may also cause bottleneck for those coming for rodeo; only have 1 ambulance/crew; crowd for rodeo may take from crowd at midway
  - a. Could possibly move start time to 4 pm
4. Did not have park entertainment in 2011 due to miscommunication
5. Fireworks were very good; pop can redemption covers a large portion of cost as well as solicitations from businesses, collection cans in businesses, and passing the can at fireworks site
6. Estimated 12,000 in attendance
7. Chamber believes that there are lots of individuals with ideas for other events for July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration that need to be tapped
8. Thanks to Judy Bintner and Community Club for **all their hard work**

B. Grocery Store (Chamber) committee will meet July 19, 2011 at 6:30 PM at the City Hall (committee gathering ideas/information to present to Nishna Valley Grocery Committee)

C. Farmer's Market going well; Sandy shared brochure, highlighting Exira's market

**D. Regular Chamber meeting changed to second Tuesday at 5 PM, City Council room**

E. Thanks to Marge Hansen for her efforts with the gazebo; it looks great

New Business

A. Fall Festival (Carol Lea Rasmussen) September 24, 2011

1. Jane Houchins does not plan on selling pumpkins and mums; children's train ride is unable to be present; unsure about Country Sno
2. Suggestions for other events: Peggy Toft will look into hay for hay bale maze
3. Carol Lea suggested book fair but library already does that at Fall Festival
4. Park entertainment – people usually do not stay in park to listen

B. Sandy Bauer shared brochure advertising etched glass block fund raiser for library

The meeting adjourned at 1 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Shaffer Secretary