

APRIL 13, 2011

EXIRA CHAMBER MEETING

12:00 COUNCIL ROOM

Present: Traci Riesgaard, Jennifer Marxen, Abby Rasmussen, Sandy Bauer, Margie Hansen, Judy Wheeler, Brenda Bengard, Amber Wilson, Judy Bintner, Jerry Wahlert, and Carol Lea Rasmussen

The group thanked Judy Wheeler for providing the lunch. The group read the minutes on their own.

Treasurer's Report: Balance in Chamber Account--\$1,030.51

----Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre Ticket Sales: \$5, 500.00; Expenses: \$2, 218.91

----Murder Mystery Total Profits: \$3, 280.19 + \$750.00 from Thrivent = \$4, 030.19 all donated to Exira Public Library

COMMITTEE REPORTS

--Margie talked to Food/Grocery Inspector and she states that small grocery stores do well. The grocery stores need to provide what the public wants. Meat market, milk, bread, and contents to build and prepare casseroles and take home meals for customers. The Antique Junction Store would be perfect site for store. Margie felt the inspector would come and visit the chamber.

---Abby reported that Twigs is sold. She and Joe bought the store for Rasmussen Law Office. There was interest in the building for an apartment prior to their purchase.

---Ribbon Cuttings: Greenbrier Golf Course-April 30, 2011; John and Denise Asberry Carwash---To be announced; Jen Marxen Photo Shop—To be announced; Traci Riesgaard/Riann Hansen—To be announced

Community Club Report

Easter Egg Hunt is set for April 23, 2011 at the Exira City Park.

Highway 71 Garage Sale is set for May 7th; please contact Judy Bintner or Jan Sorensen if interested. The Rec Center will be open that day for persons interested in having a place to have a garage sale at.

City Wide Clean-Up is scheduled for May 14. A fee will be required for persons looking to get rid of dumpster tires and appliances. We may get some 4-H groups to help with clean-up.

Sara Zach's group, Jon Hays' group, Leadership group, and Tammy Magner's Girl Scouts may be willing to help with the clean-up. We need to organize groups to clean the bike trail and other areas in Exira. We could advertise for people to pile branches up by curb for pick-up. Margie,

Dave, and Amber will help. Carol Lea will check with Leadership group and Sara Zach's group. We will try to get someone to organize the groups.

4th of July: There is possibility of a carnival for Monday, July 4th. The rides will be in Sioux City on Saturday, but could come here Sunday and be up and running for Monday, July 4th. Tom Thomas, Louisiana, said 5-6 rides and possibly some blow-ups are available; Judy is going to talk more with him and persuade him to come. This should be confirmed by late April.

The Rodeo will be on Sunday, July 3 at 1 P.M.-Brett Rold is the contact person for this. This year's rodeo will be at a different site, but parking will be behind the dump with the rodeo north of the Exira Lutheran Church. Alumni Coffee and Entertainment in the Park are TBA. The Ecumenical Church Service will be at the Exira Rec Center on Sunday, July 3rd, with meal following.

Library: Currently, waiting for Carver Grant approval for remodel. Also, wait for Cathy Christ to help with plans for building. Gifts of money they have received thus far are appreciated. May apply for additional grants and is currently doing their own fundraising.

Exira City Council: Region XII-"Safe Ride to School": (K-8th grade)-City residents need to fill out survey to encourage them to give Exira "x" amount of dollars to repair/replace sidewalks.

---Bridge south of Dr. office (Exira Medical Clinic) is going to be roped off due to being unsafe. No money is available for repairs/replacement of bridge. City Council will affirm this.

--No action taken on rezoning of the town by Robert/Joe yet. Jerry Wahlert has a concern also with the zoning in regards to a business south of current funeral home. Currently, that land is zoned for agriculture. Joe will work on this project following tax season.

In other reports, Margie reported that the work on gazebo by the bike trail is soon to start. Need to get their dirt work done because they have 8 weeks to get the project done. Margie has volunteers for project, including Jerry Wahlert, Community Club members, 4-H groups. The Exira High School would like to put a fountain there in memory of Tom Johnson. Teresa Jones will coordinate this for senior class. Currently, all materials can be gotten with 2010 prices. Sign that Carol Lea has been working on with Marge Shaffer/Nishnabotna Trails committee will also go there.

Farmer's Market Information: Starting the first Friday in May, the farmer's market will be up by the City Park. Jen Marxen will get the sign up on the east edge of Exira. Carol Lea has talked to Dale Raasch, Bridgewater, Iowa, and he is planning on coming. He's not organic, but all natural with the sprays/chemicals he puts on his produce. Information has been given to Sandy Bauer, and also in the local papers. The time will be from 4:00-7:00 to get more people before they leave town for the weekend.

Miscellaneous items: Abby and Joe went to Elk Horn's Better Business dinner. They have dues and also a mission statement. Abby asked if our chamber has a mission statement or a membership drive for dues. No action taken on this.

Margie Hansen suggested someone from chamber attend the Exira City Council meetings monthly. We could take turns and be assigned a month and trade if needed. This was tabled until next month.

Next meeting will be May 11, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. at Council Room.

Respectfully yours,

Carol Lea Rasmussen