

Exira Chamber of Commerce  
November 8, 2011

The Exira Chamber met at 5 pm in the library of the Exira Lutheran Church. Present: Sandy Bauer, Carol Lea Rasmussen, Amber Wilson, Riann Hansen, Judy Bintner, Peggy Toft, Tracy Riesgaard, Jen Marxen, Jackie Phippen, Karla Bieker, Katie Rasmussen, Abby Rasmussen, and Joan Shaffer.

Old Business

- A. Chamber Challenge – will do again with 17 potential businesses participating; will change rules to indicate that a maximum of \$25 may be spent at any one business (encouraging buyer to patronize 4 businesses to get to \$100); will have 4 - \$50 winners (necessitating Chamber to add dollars to the pot); will run December and January with kick-off at the tree lighting.
- B. Tree lighting will be 12/3/11
  - 1. Cookie Walk will be at 5 PM (will Margy Hansen organize?)
  - 2. Soup will be served 5-6:30 PM with entertainment at 5:30 PM (Exira Community Band)
  - 3. Tree lighting will be at 7 PM
  - 4. Attendees will be asked to bring donations for the Audubon County Family Development Center
  - 5. Ornaments will be available for sale (profit will go to Festival of Lights)
  - 6. Jen Marxen will take pictures with Santa
  - 7. Judy B will ask Connie Jessen if leadership club will help decorate cookies
  - 8. Serve hot chocolate – who?
  - 9. Riann will be in charge of coloring contest
  - 10. Maybe Cathy Meyer would consider doing face painting
  - 11. Matt Mills will cut the tree but a hoist is needed; unsure when tree will be put up
  - 12. Judi Nelson would like to do more park decorating
- C. July 4<sup>th</sup>
  - 1. Blues Amusements will be here
  - 2. Rodeo will be held later in the day
- D. Community Club meeting will be 11/15/11 at 7:30 PM at the Rec Center
- E. No dinner theater news but will consider holding it in February or March (Spartan's possibly holding a fund raiser 2/4/12, Lion's Club will have Valentine diner 2/12/11, Road MC will be holding a dance 3/28/11)
- F. Library – will be letting bids this week; received \$5000 from the Audubon County Endowment Fund for furniture; hours have changed to closed on Monday and open 10 AM – 7 PM on Thursday
- G. Farmer's Market extended through November
- H. Grocery Store – no new business (Abby would like someone to step up as chairperson: bylaws and business plan needs to be written)
  - 1. Suggested committee members: Joe Rasmussen, Christy Knudsen, Colleen Riesgaard, Katie Johnson, Margy Hansen, Peggy Toft
    - a. Peggy volunteered as lead to organize meeting dates
- I. Jane Houchins has ordered 4 large flower pots at \$45/
  - 1. Amber will arrange to view pots on behalf of the Lion's Club
  - 2. Jen will arrange storage area for pots until spring

New Business

- A. Working Women's Day – Jackie Phippen volunteered to organize event for around March 17, 2012 at the Rec Center
  - 1. Discussion as to whether to include poker run at bar or change up to a casino night, alternating with dinner theater
- B. Carol Lea reported that Sarah Gomez from Midwest Partnership would like to look at our main street and perhaps make suggestions for use of our unoccupied buildings

The next meeting will be December 13, 2011 at 5 pm at the Exira Lutheran Church.

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Shaffer  
Secretary