



October 1, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting

The meeting was held at the Dundy County Senior Center located at 710 Chief Street, Benkelman, NE. Members present: Gary Clark, Randy Hudson, Linda Melchert with guest Tim Fegler, Rita Jones, Monica Mercer, Cheryl Prangle, and Judy McCune.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by President Gary Clark.
2. The minutes from the September 3, 2009 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion by Linda Melchert for approval of minutes as recorded. Second by Rita Jones. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.
3. Treasurer Jann Clark was absent for tonight's meeting. Treasurer's report was submitted for review by President Gary Clark for period ending 09-30-09. Beginning balance on the account as of September 1st was \$18,913.15. Total debits for the month were \$5,412.23 and total credits were \$1,725.00 for a month-end balance of \$15,225.92. It was noted that there will be a few more bills from the Rumble to come in. The balance of donations for the DCH Mammography fund is currently \$4,842 with donations still coming in. Motion by Rita Jones to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Second by Linda Melchert. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.
4. Old Business
 - a. Action Groups
 - i. There was nothing to report regarding Benkelman Beautification at tonight's meeting.
 - ii. Scott Vanderford was unable to attend tonight's meeting. The group reviewed item b. under new business at this time. Scott has received a request from the Dundy County-Stratton Alumni Association to post alumni information on the Chamber/City website with the Alumni Association paying any fees for the link. Motion by Linda Melchert to approved the addition the Alumni Association's information to the website with the Alumni Association incurring the costs for the media and management of this information. Second by Cheryl Prangle. Motion carried unanimously of the members present. The group also reviewed item c. under new business. It was noted that the Chamber/City website has been updated to reflect the HUD requirements for information from the City of Benkelman.

- b. Fall Festival – Rumble on the River wrap up. Gary wished to record his gratitude for all who made the event a success. This event represented Benkelman well. The security for the evening came together at the last minute with the volunteers doing a wonder job and the presence and assistance of the Dundy County Sheriff’s department made the event run smoothly. Beth Bolio and her staff ran the beer garden well. Judy McCune and Diedre Hill with their volunteers did a wonderful job with the food. Gary noted he has been hearing positive remarks from the businesses and all are asking about a repeat performance. Gary has already checked with the Rumbles and they will not be available on this weekend next year as they are already booked on Friday evening in Ogallala and Sioux Falls South Dakota on Sunday. Availability of other cover-bands (that play a wide variety of music) will be explored as well as assistance with funding to make the event sustainable. There was some concern about the safety with street lights off during the performance. Ideas were shared of having the stores keep lights on in their windows as well as other possibilities.
- c. It was noted by the Chamber that this year’s FBLA Spook Parade will held on Thursday October 29th due to the students being out of school on Friday the 30th and the 31st being a Saturday.

5. New Business

- a. Due to some miscommunication, Betty Sayers from “Nebraska Rural Living” was unable to attend tonight’s meeting.
- b. Website addition of Alumni discussed above.
- c. Website compliance with HUD discussed above.
- d. DCCCD 2009 Christmas promotion was discussed. Joya Neville has offered to coordinate the event this year. A 2-day event is planned with dates of December 5th and 19th. We will distribute business listings at the November meeting so members can proceed with solicitation of prizes for the drawings. The free children’s movie is planned for December 19th. Ping Pong blasts and prize drawings are scheduled for both days. There will not be a lighting contest or a poker walk this year. The cost (over \$400 last year) and distribution of Santa bucks was discussed. With last year’s announcement from Gene & Linda Jones regarding their retirement as Mr. & Mrs. Santa, Judy McCune offered assistance from her family.
- e. The Chamber is keeping future agenda items in their sites with election of officers to be held January 7th, the chamber agenda needs to be set for 2010, and the membership drive which needs to begin right after the first of the year.
- f. Other – Judy McCune announced the start-up of her new business(s). She will be start operation of “Wagon Tails Groomery” for dogs and cats which will be located in the blue building (old ASCS office) next

to Owens True Value. Judy is also a distributor for “Alison’s Pantry” and will provide the opportunity to purchase quality foods through her business as well. Gark Clark mentioned his desire to continue utilization of the beautiful store front in the old Farm signboard so it will be safe from weather. Terry McCune arrived at the meeting to discuss the upcoming Christmas Promotion.

6. Next Meeting: November 5, 2009 at 6 pm at the Dundy County Senior Center
7. Adjournment at 7:30 pm

/s/ Rita Jones, Secretary DCCCD