



May 7, 2009

Minutes of the Meeting

The meeting was held at the Dundy County Senior Center located at 710 Chief Street, Benkelman, NE. Members present: Cheryl Prangley, Harlan Cansler, Rita Jones, Gary Clark, Randy Hudson, Joya Neville, Meghan Baney, Scott Vanderford, Shane Sis, and Anne Burge.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Gary Clark.
2. The floor was given to Ann Burge from the Southwest Nebraska Community Betterment Corporation. Ann discussed BECA grant funding that will be used in the counties of Perkins, Chase and Dundy. Some of the funding will be used for education to business owners. A 1-day class on leadership through Midplains College is being brought out to the Library in Imperial on June 3rd. The class is called "Building Capacity – Training the Trainer". The class will run from 9:00am-3:30 and there is a target of 25 students and a local match is requested. After sharing this information, Ann left the meeting.
3. The floor was given to Shane Sis from AmFirst Insurance. Shane presented the requested information regarding rain insurance for the "Rumble on the River". He noted that there is no insurance offered for simple weather, say wind. The cost for insuring against .1 inch of rain on \$4K would run \$400 and must be purchased no less than 14-days prior to the event. He noted that if the group were interested event liability, this would cost around \$500. In general discussion with the group, it was decided to wait on this decision until closer to the date of the event when current weather patterns can be taken into account. After sharing this information, Shane left the meeting.
4. The minutes from the April 2, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Cheryl Prangley for approval of the minutes as recorded. Second by Randy Hudson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.
5. Treasurer's report was presented by Scott Vanderford. The report included monthly income and expenses for the months of March and April 2009. Comparisons of the account balances from 11/2007 through current were also provided. April revenue was \$1,200 from membership dues and expenses including 6 line items totaled \$396.04 for a month-end income off \$803.96. Current account balance at 04-30-09 was \$18,971.83. Motion by Joya Neville to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Second by Cheryl Prangley Hudson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

6. Old Business

a. Action Groups

- i. Gary discussed Benkelman Improvement/Community Projects. He shared information on the following projects:

The Spring – Extensive tree clearing is completed and the horseshoe ring re-constructed. We are waiting on block to come in at Owens True Value to complete the project. Summer mowing is in process.

The Veterans Memorial – The group walked across the street to review this improvement. This has been a cooperative project across 4 Benkelman organizations. The VFW provided labor, equipment, and organization. The Dundy County Commissioners provided the concrete. The PINC Ladies providing the Flamingo Flocking to promote community attention to this needed upgrade as well as donating the proceeds from the “Flocking” to the project. The Dundy County Chamber of Commerce & Development has the opportunity to provide funding. Motion by Rita Jones for the Chamber to contribute up to \$750 for the Veterans Memorial project. Second by Randy Hudson. Motion carried unanimously of the members present. Gary wanted to say a special thanks to Randy Hudson and Wayne Clark for stump removal and shrub removal.

The Benkelman Library Parking Lot Project is nearly completed. This has been a 2-year project in the making with addition of sidewalks and portico.

NCIP update. Gary shared information from the annual 2008 NCIP Report. Listed in the report were two projects from Benkelman which were the FSA Office and the West Portal Project. Gary stated that although the Benkelman projects did not earn grant dollars, the involvement of Benkelman in the process of NCIP is noteworthy.

- ii. Scott Vanderford presented the Website Update. New additions to the website is the information on the Rumble on the River and the link to the website for “The Rumbles”. As time approaches, more can be added. Scott noted that there are new featured businesses on the website for the month of May. Scott discussed that he felt there was insufficient traffic on the website to change out these businesses every 2 weeks and the group in attendance at tonight’s meeting agreed that the business spotlight should run for a full month.
 - iii. Graphic Communications – Ben Blecha was unable to attend the meeting tonight. It was requested that this action group be eliminated from the agendas as the promotional brochures are printed and complete. All were reminded that Ben still has a great supply of the brochures if any are interested in having some for distribution.
- b. Fall Festival – Gary shared the outlines and plans for the “Rumble on the River”. He shared the resolution from the Dundy County Hospital Board of

Trustees approving support of the event as a benefit for breast cancer with proceeds going to the Dundy County Hospital. The “Event Guides” were passed around for consideration and discussion. These guides will help us keep track of where the event is to date and leave room for other suggestions. Gary noted a couple important items as he has been working with gentlemen from the City of Benkelman to provide the appropriate electrical access. He noted there will need to be four levels of security. The first line of security will be simply the community, those who are in attendance. The second line will be 6-10 men and women serving as “Officials” that circulate through the grounds observing any behavior that may require further attention. The third is the City Law Enforcement and the fourth is the County Law enforcement. Advertisement will begin soon in the form of press releases. Rita shared information on an opportunity she heard about just today on a promotional newspaper stuffer from the Benkelman Post that will be shared at the alumni banquet and with the BRAN bikers. Radio spots and channel 6 will be utilized as well as posters for the event as the date of September 18th nears.

- c. Leadership Plenty – The classes were complete this past Tuesday. Gary noted that he felt there was much education provided on team work as well as integration and interaction promoted among individuals who attended. He felt all in attendance were tuned in to what goes on in the community and that the next step for them will be to work with the Nebraska Community Leadership Program to integrate the students to work directly with our community.
- d. Membership Drive – Gary asked for all who participated in the membership drive to get the applications and checks directly to him. Gary tracks the members and will pass the checks on to Scott for deposit. Gary presented a packet that will be mailed to all potential members who have not yet joined. This packet contains the information on the Rumble on the River as well as the most recent beautification project – the Veterans Memorial.

7. New Business:

- a. Chamber Phone – It was noted that the chamber phone is not being answered. Discussion on several ways this communication could be handled was discussed. This item has been tabled until the June meeting.
- b. Other - None

8. Next meeting: June 4, 2009 at 6pm at the Dundy County Senior Center.

9. Adjournment at 8:15 pm

/s/ Rita Jones, Secretary DCCCD