



Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 5, 2010
Benkelman Community Building

The meeting was held at the Benkelman Community Building, 809 Huron Street, Benkelman, NE. Members present: Ben Blecha, Scott Vanderford, Meghann Pursley, Melissa Jacobitz, Monica Mercer, Hal Walker..

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Ben Blecha.
2. Meeting Standards
 1. EVERYONE MUST BE ON TIME. There must be no exception to this unless there has been prior communication and an obvious problem. We respect that everyone's time is valuable.
 2. EVERYONE MUST COME PREPARED. There is nothing worse than a team being slowed down by someone who did not do their homework, be it reports, research, or simply keeping themselves informed on the project at hand.
 3. EVERYONE MUST BE ALLOWED TO TELL THE TRUTH AND SPEAK THEIR MIND WITHOUT THREAT OF RETRIBUTION OR CONDEMNATION.
 4. THERE IS NO PUBLIC HUMILIATION PERMITTED.
 5. NO RAMBLING. STAY ON THE SUBJECT.
 6. LISTEN TO WHAT IS SAID: You will have your turn to speak. What you have to say is important. You want to be heard, start by returning the favor.
 7. YOU MUST BE WILLING TO POLITELY BUT FIRMLY "CALL" EACH OTHER ON THESE STANDARDS. As a team we must help each other so we can accomplish great things!!
3. The minutes from the February 4, 2010 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Monica for approval of the minutes. Second by Hal. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.
4. Acting Treasurer Meghann Pursley reviewed the Treasurer's report for period ending 08-05-10. Beginning balance on the account as of July 1st was \$8,625.50. Total credits on the account were \$6764.48. Total debits on the account were \$3050.26, leaving a July month-end total of \$18,440.24. Motion by Hal to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Second by Monica. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.
5. Thank yous
Thank yous need to be extended to the fairboard.

6. Old Business:

- a. Action Group Reports
- i. Web-Site Communications
Scott reported receiving more inquiring emails regarding Benkelman. Scott contacted the museum regarding an email asking if we would be interested in memorabilia of Ward Bond.
- ii. Chamber Phone Communications
No report.
- iii. Retail
Members of the retail group handed out chamber fliers during the fair. There is another opportunity to hand out fliers at the August 15th golf event at the Benkelman golf course. The Fall hand out schedule needs to be created. This group will start to look at Xmas promotions.
- iv. Jobs
Jandi Fanning has offered to help write grants, specifically the BECA grant. Monica mentioned that it would be good for the Chamber to attend the Haigler Village meetings. Monica also mentioned attaining more pictures from surrounding areas in Dundy County to add to the Paint Our Town site.
- b. Circus Planning
Melissa gave an update on advertising that has been done for the circus. The booth at the fair was also a success and an ad in the paper was placed to advertise the winners of the ticket drawing. Two ticket takers for each show are still needed.
- c. Pre-Fair BBQ Wrap-up
The BBQ was a success. Thanks yous are being sent out to everyone who bought a ticket. Monica is delivering the banners to the sponsors. Total net estimated profits are \$6,652.00. Port-o-Potties still need to be picked up, Melissa will call. The mailing list needs to be expanded.
- d. 1st Dollar Project
Scott has been compiling a list of businesses that need recognition. Melissa will give Monica the frames to start designing. Ben will contact Jason with the Post about a possible business showcase and paper inserts highlighting county businesses. The inserts may be included in the Wauneta and Bird City papers as well. Maintenance, insurance and retail specific handouts were discussed. Meghan mentioned the Chamber creating its own business directory.
- e. Leadership classes
Ben contacted Ann Burge from Grant to partner with Perkins/Chase County on their November Leadership Class. Judy Owens received a \$2,275 grant for the previous class from the Hansen Foundation. Ann had not contacted Ben with info before meeting. Tabled until next meeting.
- f. Video Project
Ben spoke of possibly shooting interviews with Community organizations and or City officials for up-coming events to broadcast on Channel 11 during the lunch hour. The video would help to show how active the community is. Monica and Ben have the equipment, Melissa also mentioned that she has the necessary equipment. Email Ben with any one-shot project ideas.
- g. Recycling Project
Ben suggested a committee be formed. Melissa and Meghan know people who may be interested. Tabled until next meeting.