



Meeting Agenda
Thursday, October 14, 2010
Benkelman Community Building

The meeting was held at the Benkelman Community Building, 809 Huron Street, Benkelman, NE. Members present: Ben Blecha, Scott Vanderford, Melissa Jacobitz, Linda Melchert, Arlene Stute, and Harlan Cansler.

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 September 2, 2010 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Arlene for approval of the minutes. Second by Scott. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.
4. Acting Treasurer Meghann Pursley was not present. Scott reviewed the Treasurer's report for period ending 9-30-10. Total credits on the account were \$600.00. Total debits on the account were \$6,676.08, leaving a September month-end total of \$11,444.36. Motion by Melissa to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Second by Linda. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

5. Thank yous

Linda would like to publish a Card of Thanks to Ben and Jerry Shaw for their donated labor to repair the Great Wall of Benkelman. A Card of Thanks also needs to be given to the Methodist Youth Group for their landscaping work done to the area south of Beths Bar. Ben is also going to send a thank you card to the Library for donating the book, Boomtown USA to the Chamber.

6. Old Business:

a. Action Group Reports

- i. Web-Site Communications
Scott added Sage Hill as a business.
- ii. Chamber Phone Communications
Bob Prangle is not present.
- iii. Retail
Monica has been calling businesses to see if they want to be included on the new set of cards: healthcare, handyman, automotive.
- iv. Jobs
The grant was submitted on 9/30/10, now just waiting on response.

b. Circus

Melissa gave a summary of the questionnaires responses which gave the circus and overall rating of 7 out of 10.

c. Grain Elevator TIF report

Harlan gave an update on the elevator. He said that they are working on connecting power to the elevator so generators will no longer be needed. The cost will be \$500,000 to connect power however it will be paid for after three years of using the TIF funds. The TIF funds will be available after the site has been annexed. There will also be TIF money left over that can be used for businesses, and buildings.

d. 1st Dollar Project

Linda will contact Meghann for an update for next meeting.

e. Recycling project

Melissa gave an update on the goals of the recycling committee. They would like to start getting the local businesses to recycle cardboard instead of burning it as well as setting up bins around town to recycle plastic pop bottles. A request for money from the Chamber to buy the collection bins will be determined when the collection of the recyclables in the bins has been finalized.

f. Christmas Promotion Committee

Martha was not present. An update will be given at the next meeting along with ways the Chamber can help.

g. Great Wall update

Ben and Jerry Shaw donated their time and efforts to make the necessary repairs. A Card of Thanks will be published in the paper.

6. New Business

a. Fall festival status sponsorship

The Chamber sponsored an Ad in the paper but there was not a lot of participation due to previous events such as the car show not being done. There was a lot of discussion regarding building the Fall Festival back up for 2011. Ben mentioned homemade go-kart racing, soapbox racing, and marketing the festival as a whole. This has been tabled until 1/2011.

b. Support Our Troops xmas promo

Melissa gave a DVD presentation that will ask for donations to give a whole platoon giftcards to Blackhawk.com for Christmas. She would like to make a Facebook page that will accept donations and also promote DCCCD paintourtown website in hopes to help the Chambers marketing efforts. Motion by Linda to support the promotion. Second by Scott. Motion carried unanimously of the members present.

- c. Halloween Promotion
Peggy Parker emailed Ben on behalf of the FBLA to request financial support for their Halloween activities. A total of \$104 was requested. Motion by Melissa to support the promotion. Second by Linda. Motion carried unanimously of the members present. Scott said he will also ask that the street be closed to prevent any accidents.
- d. Harlan Cansler
Harlan spoke of his experience and time he has spent working on City issues such as the water system and how he is more than just a forty hour per week Mayor. He mentioned that he has sent in the first report required by the Nebraska Water Quality division and is awaiting their response and will continue to solve the City's water issue. He also invited everyone to his discussion on Sunday October 17th.
- e. Gary Clark
Both Melissa and Ben left messages for Gary but have not heard back.
- f. Ben invited everyone to help set-up the defibrillators around the county this Saturday at 10:00. So far 29 defibrillators have been purchased and the original goal was 33. Donations are still being accepted.
- g. Linda is going to tell NE Rural Living that we are not interested this year but to leave the door open for the future.

7. Next Meeting: Regular Meeting – November 6, 2010 at noon at Twin Forks.

Adjournment at 7:30 pm

/s/ Melissa Jacobitz, Secretary DCCCD