

SWEET GRASS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 9, 2005

Members present: Bryan Zales, Mike Chulyak, Yvonne Armstrong, and Karen Ward.
Meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m.

1. Treasurer's Report: Presented and accepted. Current assets = \$12,687.28 to date, compared to \$8106.10 in 2004.
2. Karen Ward:
 - a. Sandy at Justice Court has contacted the Chamber requesting obtaining goodie bags for participants attending City & Justice Clerks district meeting held in Big Timber in April. Mike will bring up with Downtown Merchants Committee. Yellowstone Country calendars may be included in bags.
 - b. Crazy Mountain Christmas financial review. Copy attached.
 - c. Travel Montana Tourism Development has received the Special Events Grant Program application for Sweet Grass Fest. Decisions will be made in early March.
 - d. 2005 Visitor Center grant application is completed and ready to be sent in.
 - e. Richard, Yvonne, & Karen have met and compiled proposed Visitor Center guidelines and job specs for the VC staff. Karen prepared a proposed VC schedule to be included with the grant application.
 - f. RadioShack has contacted the Chamber seeking candidates for the RadioShack Franchise program. Information will be included in the newsletter.
 - g. The Livingston Enterprise will be including Sweet Grass County in the Park County Visitor's Guide this year. Information will be included in the newsletter.
 - h. Current 2005 membership is at 58, which includes 5 new members to the Chamber. Registration forms were mailed to 167 businesses and/or individuals. The Chamber had 79 members in 2004, 78 members in 2003, and 89 members in 2002.
3. Mike Chulyak:
 - a. Summer banners are being prepared.
 - b. Downtown Merchants Association is putting together an Easter promotion for March 25th.
 - c. Merchants are being encouraged to offer Saturday business hours.
 - d. Calendar of Events: suggested that the Chamber encourage community to provide Chamber with information about their events. Karen will include in the newsletter.
4. Becky Bowman: inquired about informational material available from the Chamber to give to persons opening new accounts. Karen will provide her a copy of the VC info packet for now.
5. Training: Discussed training events to be sponsored as a member benefit. Perhaps a speaker on community marketing and/or round table discussion to solicit local business input. Karen will contact the State Chamber for ideas on marketing a community.
6. Parade sponsor request was received from Rivers Across to allow Chamber insurance to cover their parade on Friday, February 11. Request granted. The parade will be billed as a Chamber event.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Karen Ward
Acting Secretary