

OWACC Board of Directors Meeting

August 15, 2011, 6:30 p.m., Withee Village Hall

1. **Call to order:** Time: 7:07 p.m.

2. **Roll Call:** Present: Borgeson, Greschner, Mitchell, Rohland, Tabbert

Absent: Bruesewitz, Esker, Koplitz, Laube

Others present: Tim Swiggum

3. **Approve minutes:** June 20, 2011 Board of Directors Meeting

Motion: Borgeson 2nd: Tabbert Vote: Unanimous

4. **Treasurer's Report:** June 2011 (financials, new members, donations, etc.)

Motion: Borgeson 2nd: Mitchell Vote: Unanimous

5. **Action Items:**

a) Appointment of New Secretary: NO ACTION TAKEN

b) Business After Hours – Summer – July 15, 2011 – Event was held at Munson Bridge Winery with a total of 15 attendees from 10 different businesses were present. Door prizes were handed out. There was no action required – informational purposes only.

c) Chamber Membership – Members Not Current: Discussion held on the 7 member businesses that did not renew their membership within the Chamber. Letters were sent to all businesses that did not renew with time to renew before further action would be taken. Decision was that these businesses are not in good standing according to bylaws. They are to be dropped from membership and listings on our web site to be deleted.

Motion: Tabbert 2nd: Borgeson Vote: Unanimous

d) WAXX Radio Advertising Program: New Series underway. A total of 3 businesses signed up for a full promotion and a total of 3 businesses signed up for half promotion. Further discussion concerning merits of program and benefit to both the Chamber as an organization and to the community at large. General consensus was that it is a good program for both. The Chamber will be billing out for these promotions as soon as we get the required info from Lyle at WAXX at the start of each series.

Also discussed credits for period of time that the WAXX broadcasting equipment was disabled with limited area coverage. Mitchell will continue working with Lyle to monitor program and determine equitable credits for the Chamber. The Chamber will not negotiate for individual members in the promotional series as they are the ones who directly contracted with WAXX Radio for these services. There was no action required – informational purposes only.

6. Liaison Reports:

- a) O-W Development Corporation: No Report
- b) Owen City Counsel/Downtown Revitalization Committee: Dime store has been purchased and is currently under renovation with a possible restaurant. The Owen Manufacturing property project is continuing. The city is close to finalizing the purchase of 22 acres of the property. They are also in negotiations concerning an environmental cleanup and the purchase of the remaining property. The intent is then to resell to an investor/developer for future business expansion.

The Yellow Stone Trail will be celebrating the 100th anniversary. City is continuing efforts in marking trail with yellow daffodils as well as throughout both communities. Also flower beds around mill pound need attention.

- c) Agribusiness Innovation Center, Inc.: Funding has run out for the full time position of Director for CWAIC. Tim Swiggum will be assuming some of these responsibilities. Fund raising efforts are still in progress in order to match the grant funds that are available.
- d) Withee Village Board: No Report
- e) Hwy 29 Partnership: WHEDA, which is the major funding source for this organization, no longer has funds available. The future of this organization is in question at this time unless a new funding source is identified. Tim Swiggum will continue to try and keep organization viable.
- f) Clark County Board/Economic Dev. Corp & Tourism: Tim Swiggum reported on the CCEDC having a booth at the state fair to promote Clark County. Attendance and interest seemed positive.

7. Committee Reports:

- a) Newsletter: Rohland continuing to work on putting together a small newsletter highlighting the Chambers events. Discussion on the costs, merits and content of the newsletter. The consensus was that the news letter should be a promotional tool for the Chamber and its members and should not necessarily be just a rehash of some local events within the community news. Board will continue working on this promotional tool as to content, layout and periodicity.
- b) Communication Center: 192 total calls were received in the communication center. Jackie (O-W Sports and Liquor) provided a copy of these communications to the meeting for review. A great portion of these calls were for info on non-members as well as community information. It is felt that we are here to first and foremost promote our members but we have an obligation to support the greater community as well. NOTE: Jackie has been very gracious in hosting the Communication Center since the beginning with her time, space and staff time as well.
- c) Chamber Bucks: There has been \$7590 in Chamber Buck Sales to date. Promotion seems to be a good way for businesses to promote themselves and to buy local.
- d) Website: Continuing need for community events and business information.
- e) O-W Hwy 29 Welcome Signs: Need to add information on our welcome signs to the Chamber's web page. Mitchell will take care of. Borgeson reported he has received several community organization

signs that need to be installed yet. He knows there are more coming and is waiting to put up all of them at once.

- f) Chamber Advertising/Promotions: Discussion was held on the possible fall promotion for the community. Ideas revolved around a "Music in the Park" or an "Ice Cream Social." Proposed date is October 2, 2011 at the Owen Mill Pond Park. As this was not an actionable item this needs to be placed on August's Agenda for action and approval because Chamber Funds will be expended. Rohland will put together a proposal for the next meeting.
- g) Membership: No Report
- h) Expo: No further reports – remove from Agenda until next EXPO.
- i) Correspondence Received: Ministry Health Care requested a W9 from the Chamber for their tax records. Mitchell will complete and send back to them.

8. Old Business: None

9. New Business/Agenda Items: Fall Chamber Promotion needs to be put on August agenda for approval and planning.

Tim Swiggum reported on the new Regional VA Clinic Grand Opening on October 20th, 2011. He is talking with them on coordinating promotional events. The CCEDC will also be promoting this as a grand opening within Clark County. Looking for other organizations to participate and help promote.

10. Adjourn Time: 8:37 p.m. Motion: Tabbert 2nd: Borgeson Vote: Unanimous