

**OROFINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 10, 2007
PONDEROSA BANQUET ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER

Past President Chris Laws called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. There were 24 members and three guests present. Staff included Burnham.

MINUTES

The minutes of the general membership meeting are now being emailed to the membership with the meeting reminders. The minutes of the general membership meeting were approved as presented.

GUESTS

Dennis Harper introduced his guests, Representative Ken Roberts and Senator Skip Brandt. Eric Statler introduced his guest, David Statler, his father and owner of the Eagles Nest, a new business in town and new Chamber member.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made.

ELECTIONS

We have two Board of Directors seats which will be left vacant at the end of the year by Heather Leach and Lee Woolsey who will not be running for another three year term. Past President Laws thanked the outgoing Board members for their dedicated service.

The nominating committee has identified two candidates for the open three year positions; Tanna Zywina with Valley Rentals and the Helgeson and Stephanie Deyo with the Clearwater Valley Hospital Foundation. Past President Laws asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Dennis Thompson made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the two candidates as nominated by the nominating committee. Dennis Harper seconded the motion, all aye, motion carried. Congratulations new board members.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

It has been an incredibly exciting year and we have experienced many, many successes. Every one our fundraisers raised more money this year than last year. This success is all made possible thanks to our volunteers and members who helped out this year on our many projects. Also, thanks to our Board of Directors on a job well done this year and continued success in the coming New Year.

Relocation Tourism Numbers to date:

2007~ 40 Tourism, 45 Relo.

2006~ 47 Tourism, 63 Relo.

2007 New Members: 13

2006 New Members: 12

2007 Dues are up \$571.60 over 2006

Proud Heritage Plaza Tiles Sold: 6

We helped with the Arbor Day Celebration and wrote and received a grant to help celebrate that day which was the same day as Community Clean up day, which was again a success thanks to the many volunteers who pitched in to make the community sparkle.

The Welcome to Orofino sign is now up and that project also helped a Boy Scout earn his Eagle Scout badge. Also from that same sign grant, three kiosks have been put up, one in the City Park, one in the new park toward Konkolville, and one in the new Champion park. The benches arrived yesterday and will be placed on the levee along the Clearwater River.

The GEM Committee has been established as a committee of the Chamber and is working toward some community improvements and as a link from Orofino's business community to Chris Kuykendall with CCED.

We facilitated a survey that went to Verizon to highlight the community's need for better service.

We have developed and been collecting hotel surveys to find out what visitors to Orofino would like to do with their time while they are here.

We have continued our partnership with CCED, Dworshak State Park and the Corp. of Engineers working toward Dworshak improvements.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Past President Laws reminded the membership that this meeting will consist of in-depth, year end committee reports in lieu of a program speaker.

Public Affairs- Committee Chair Dennis Harper reported that the committee has had a successful year. The Public Affairs Legislative Policy Position Statements will go out to the legislature later this month. He thanked each of the committee members, who meet one to two times per month depending on what is going on. The committee has been working on the ATV trail issue. Harper encouraged members to contact the committee with issues. Harper then introduced Representative Ken Roberts to comment about the Public Affairs Committee's involvement. Representative Roberts announced that we will continue with the legislative calls this year and briefed the membership on what will be happening in the legislature this year; property tax, grocery tax credits, consolidated election dates. He welcomes ideas and suggestions.

Promotional- Committee Chair Eric Statler announced that the committee needs members. The committee does a lot as part of the Chamber as well as with the North Central Idaho Travel Association (NCITA). The Associated Loggers got a great welcome in Orofino this year and as a result, they have scheduled their annual meeting here again for this coming year. Business after Hours was started this year and gives Chamber members an opportunity to showcase their businesses in a relaxed atmosphere where networking is encouraged.

Auction- Monica Jones updated the membership on the Auction which "has come a long way". The Chamber Auction began at Konkolville, then progressed out to the Armory,

and for the past three years has been held at the Best Western Lodge at River's Edge. The Auction was a huge financial success this year and is the Chamber's major fundraiser. They have a great committee and appreciate their members. Meetings for the 2008 auction will begin in January and will take place on May 2nd, 2008. Jones thanked the committee members and the membership for their generous donations, their auction participation and for donating their employees' time for the event. The committee is looking for new members and ideas.

4th of July – Committee Chair Mayor Joe Pippenger updated the membership on the 4th of July. This year a new addition to the festivities was the Raft Race which was successful and brought in about \$500 for the fireworks. This will hopefully continue to grow in participation and success. The prizes were donated thanks to local businesses. In 2006 at this time there was \$7600 in checking and savings for the fireworks, right now we are at \$5950. The fireworks shooters donate their time to make this event possible for Orofino.

CCED – Committee Chair Mayor Joe Pippenger updated the membership on Economic Development in Clearwater County. They are working on DSL speed, Verizon got us upgraded to 3MB per second within 18,000 linear (3.4 miles) of their Orofino office. They facilitated a turn lane at Hazen Lane which helped to keep about 50 plus jobs and have been working on Dworshak grants. There will be a HUB Zone workshop on December 12 at the Best Western Lodge at River's Edge. The workshop is free, but you do need to RSVP to Chris Kuykendall.

President's Cup – Committee Co-Chair Larry Coonts stated that the President's Cup Golf Tournament was a success this year with 30 teams of 3 people each from all over. This event brings a lot of people to town for the weekend, and aside from being an excellent fundraiser, a good time was had by all.

Welcome and Membership- We welcomed Care Connection and Eagles Nest yesterday. We welcome new member Eagle's Nest as a new Chamber member.

Economic Development –CCED met with Jim Ellick the new Idaho Director of Commerce. The next CCED meeting will be November 28th in Elk River.

GEM- The GEM committee continues to meet quarterly and is working on a pathway on Highway 12 and is trying to get on the list for Corridor Management Funds. The committee will meet tomorrow at noon at the Krystal Café.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No Report

PROGRAM

Programs- December 19, Christmas Program

ADJOURN

Past President Chris Laws thanked everyone in the room for their dedication to the Orofino Chamber of Commerce over the past year. There being no further business, Past President Laws adjourned the meeting at 1:01 p.m.

Connie Robison, President

ATTESTED:

Heather R. Burnham, Executive Director