

**OROFINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 7, 2007
PONDEROSA BANQUET ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President Ryan Smathers called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

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

Our guests were Noel Abbot, District Director for the American Red Cross and his wife Jane Abbot.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If anyone is interested in hosting a “Business after Hours” please contact Promotional Chair, Eric Statler at the Lodge at River’s Edge. The Lodge at River’s Edge will be hosting a “Business after Hours” March 28th at 5:30 which will give chamber members a chance to network in a casual atmosphere.

UPDATE: The date of this month’s “Business after Hours” has been changed to Thursday, March 29th.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Affairs- Committee met this week and discussed trail access, Potlatch Land permits, the North South Trail, ATV usage Bills, and Schools. There will be a conference call with our House Representatives on Tuesday morning at 7:00 at the Commerce and Labor office. All are welcome.

Promotional- Committee is looking for businesses who want to host “Business after Hours”

Special Events- The Auction will take place May 4th at Lodge at River’s Edge. This year’s theme is “Orofino’s Night in Hollywood”.

Welcome and Membership- Orofino Chamber of Commerce welcomes two new members this week, Northwest Value Drug and Gift and SL Start.

Economic Development - No Report.

GEM- The GEM committee meets quarterly.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

No Report

PROGRAM

Programs – March 21, Becky Drewery - TIPS Training

April 4, Jim May – Clearwater Valley Hospital Foundation

Past-President Chris Laws introduced our program speaker, Jill Tyler with the Clearwater United Education Foundation (CUEF). Tyler has lived in Orofino since 1995 and is the Executive Director of Brookside Landing. She introduced Lee Woolsey who is also involved in CUEF.

Tyler reported that CUEF was established March 3, 2000 and the original Board of Directors was made up of Lin Call, Pat Richardson, Mindy Pollock, John Swayne, Royce Hicks, Wayne Wilson, Dave Daniels, Rob Thrall, Christine Erbst, and Alan Felgenhauer. The foundation was put together to help the school utilize resources without a political agenda. The foundation is a 501(c) 3 with the main purpose of raising money through a variety of methods which will benefit the entire school district.

Tyler began her involvement with CUEF in 2004 after a School Board meeting, just before the foundation was preparing to close due to lack of new volunteer interest. In past years, CUEF has supplied many items and programs to the School District including the Forestry Tour, equipment refurbishing and purchasing items for teachers. After finding a foundation similar to CUEF in Mesa, AZ, Tyler and Woolsey decided that the foundation needed a fundraising event that the school children could be a part of and decided on the Haunted House as it provided good, safe fun.

According to Tyler, “Scream in the Park” started in October of 2005. The event was a huge endeavor to put together and there wasn’t much money to put toward it, so they had to be extra creative. The Fair Board authorized use of the Fair Building in the Park and Woolsey and Tyler brought Kendall Bowser and Aleta Slavin on board to help with the planning. The committee discovered that there are many spooky things that can be done with the Fair Building. Many volunteers have followed along including Dr. Wentz’ office which has provided volunteers and booths both years of the Haunted House and U.S. Bank which helped the first year and started the tradition of “Chainsaw Man”. It is important to CUEF that none of the displays are “goth”, satanic, ritualistic, or degrading to any religion.

The first year, the Haunted House took three weeks to put together and had 650 visitors go through. This year the event took two weeks to put together, ran for longer than last year, and had over 800 visitors. Also, people are starting to come from further away than the first year. Lewiston and Kamiah each had people make the drive to Orofino for the Haunted House experience which costs \$5 for admission. The minimum age allowed to go through the exhibit is 10 as it is quite a scary experience. The purpose of the fundraiser is to get money to the schools, which they apply for through a mini-grant process.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, President Robison adjourned the meeting.

Connie Robison, President

ATTESTED:

Heather R. Burnham, Executive Director