

**General Meeting
Minutes
November 19, 2008**

Call to Order

Ryan Smathers called the meeting to order at 12:18 pm.

Minutes-

Minutes are also available online now too as a reminder to the membership

Guests

Sara Schumaker from University of Idaho extension was here to introduce herself to the General membership as well as Greg Gerot (mayor of Pierce), Peter Stegner, and Jeff Sayer both from Lewiston.

Announcements-

Keith Hansen reported on the NICC legislative tour and how well the presentation from the Clearwater County Economic Development had enhanced the image of our region. The video was well received from the legislatures. In attendance for this conference was Keith Hansen, Phillip Shriver, Joe Pippenger, and Ryan Smathers. Chris St. Germaine was unable to attend the conference. Keith made the announcement that Neal Johnson was chosen to take his place on the NICC board. Ryan Smathers interjected to thank Keith for all the hard work and service he had shown while serving on the board.

Jeff Sayer from Senator Craig's office announce to the membership that their office will be closing on the 12th of December. Senator Elect Rische will be coming on board and it is unsure whether they will have an office in Lewiston at this point. Jeff recognized that if there were problems during this transition that Peter Stegner from Senator Crapo's office will do his best to help us. Jeff thanked everyone that helped him during the last 4 years from the area and the chamber.

Lighting Heritage park will take place this Saturday at 8am. Refreshments will be provided.

Executive Director's Report-

Phillip reported on the meeting he attended last week. The NCITA membership meeting in which they elected officers also helped with networking and useful tools of lead generating for the chamber to help in drawing people into our area.

He also attended the Peirce-Weippe chamber of commerce meeting and general election of officers. He was able to express our desire to work with their chamber to help them succeed and draw people to their area as well to help both our economies. They are also finishing up their map project which will include a generic ATV map for promotional purposes by the new year.

Committee Reports

Public Affairs - Dennis Harper

Meeting with this committee will take place November 25th and if anyone has anything that needs to go on this statement please send it to Dennis.

Promotional – Laura Wolverton

-After hours- December 11th (US Bank hosting)-5pm to 7pm
-December 13 will be Orofino Gold Rush at King's. They will be giving away a total of \$1000 worth of Orofino Gold. Pictures with Santa will be available as well.

Special Events- Christmas Festival

Dec. 4, 5, & 6th

Map Committee-

Map should be finished with by 1st of year. To raise money for the match portion of the grant, advertising space will be available to Chamber Members.

Welcome & Membership- Pam Jones

-We welcomed new members Nov. 6th and they were Phantom Boats, Hoffman Print Designs, and Radiance Hair, Nail, & Specialty Salon. Another announcement will be made to the chamber of more new members welcoming to our area later.

Announcement from Joe Pippenger-

Chris St. Germaine was recognized for an award she was supposed to be receiving in Spokane and it is a surprise to her. The Inland Northwest Partners recognized Chris for the hometown hero award. She was 1 of 3 awards given in all the Northwest. Congratulations to Chris on her receiving this award and we were proud to be able to give her the award in front of her own hometown.

Programs – Connie Robison

Chris St. Germaine is our featured speaker today. She thanked everyone who helped her along the way for her to be able to receive this award.

She talked to us about how they were able to get Verizon Network for internet capability for the hospital and our area. She talked about how instrumental it was for the community and unfortunately a health issue to draw attention to the need for internet speed and capacity to be available in our area. Now the e911 system will be up and running. Weippe will benefit as well this Spring with their new fiber optic being installed then. This will help with their capacity increasing as well as better infrastructure for the Timberline school system. Elk River also has wireless broadband available in their area as well now.

Chris also told us about how she was moving forward with the Dworshak Reservoir Attenuator. Right now the design criteria for the attenuator is done, and is in the design process. She talked to us about the flexibility and low maintenance required of the attenuator. The attenuator will allow for moorage for all the house boats on the reservoir and will include some additional moorage for smaller boats. This is hopefully just phase 1 of many phases to make the marina a resort destination.

She is also working on a project of Biomass utilization. This will allow for utilization of forest material for energy development in our area. The hope is that our resources of labor and experience will be useful in the realization of this project. The analysis is underway for the feasibility of this project. If we were able to get this accomplished it would help to provide energy for the Idaho State Correctional Institution. The prison is on board for this project.

Before showing the video they have developed, she talked about how her board had decided to change focus and spend more time in recruitment of industry to the area. This inspired the video concept. If you would like to check out the video go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5g61h_z8zA. This video will be used to recruit outdoor manufacturing. Chris plans to attend different industry shows to try and promote our area.

Adjourn

Ryan Smathers adjourned the meeting