

September 26, 2016 Member Minutes
Shelby Area Chamber of Commerce

Members present: Doug Fender, Marsha McCubbins, Lorette Carter, Allan Underdal, Ray Busby, Crissy Bauman, Mike O'Brien, Cindy Combs, Ashley Kolve, JB Chandler, Sanna and Dylan Clark

REPORTS:

City of Shelby

- I attended the Conference on Community Engagement for prevention specialists and DUI Task Forces. Toole County is one of 38 DUI Task Forces in the State of Montana. The goals are education, enforcement, engineering and emergency services. The Toole County Task Force has directed our energies to provide educational opportunities for our county high school students; support Red Ribbon Week; support our DARE/SRO officer position for the schools; and provide educational resources to all the community. The Task Force is currently working on another Power of Choice Day for high school students.
- As part of America Recycles Day on November 15th, Toole County Extension Agent Alice Burchak and the Shelby Recycling Association will be completing a repurposing project with our RECCS students. We will need clean egg cartons, paper towel rolls and yogurt, sour cream or butter lids. If you have some to donate, please contact Lorette Carter at 424-8799 to pick up.
- The City of Shelby has submitted an application to be named the 2017 Tree City of the Year. The application is for the purchase of trees for Champions Park.
- The Data Feasibility Study continues.
- The City was notified of a Federal Rail Administration grant to improve safety measures around the depot; improve the Galena Street crossing for people of all abilities; and install rail gates to allow for quiet zones.
- The Shelby~ Toole County Transportation Safety Committee and City of Shelby will be hosting a Defensive Driving Course in Shelby on Tuesday, October 25th. If you would like to take the 4-hour course, please contact Lorette Carter at shbcdc@3rivers.net or call 424-8799.
- The Toole County Combined Fund Drive Committee has met and initiated plans for the 2016-2017 campaign. Please thoughtfully consider your contributions to our worthwhile organizations.

Toole County

- The Commissioners were in Billings from Sunday - Thursday for the annual MACo meeting. Each of the ten different committees in MACo formed a policy statement for the 2017 Legislative Session. There was a lot of discussion concerning the Colstrip area and the effect on that community with the future closure of the coal fired generators. Mike Toole from the MT Department of Transportation discussed the FAST Act (Fixing America's Surface Transportation) which is a funding and authorization bill to govern United States federal surface transportation spending and its effect on Montana.
- The death of the Libertarian candidate Mike Fellows has caused the need for changes on the November ballots and delayed the mailing of the military ballots in Toole County.
- The county signed final paperwork for refinancing of the bonds for the Heritage Center and the Clinic for a savings of \$300,000 to \$400,000 due to favorable interest rates.

Marias Medical Center

- It is estimated that approximately 125 attended the Parade of Homes on Sunday.
- The Foundation Board meets on Tuesday, September 27 at 8:30 am and the MMC Board meets on Wednesday, September 28 at 10 am.
- Cindy will be attending the MHA Annual Fall Convention & Trade Show on September 28 to September 30 in Billings.
- Shane Clark starts next week as the new controller at the facility.
- The annual state audit should be completed in about two weeks.
- The hospital was busy over the weekend with 18 ER admittances.

CCA

- The facility is gearing up for their annual emergency drill.
- The Annual MDOC audit will be held on October 24-29 at the facility. The facility goes through about 100 audits annually.
- CCA is providing the barbeque for the Kiwanis tailgate for SHS Homecoming on October 7th.
- The facility is still hiring. Fourteen Correction Officers transferred from the closed facility in Colorado and CCA is trying to retain 5 more.

Merchants Association met last Tuesday and discussed the upcoming holiday season and changes they might make to accommodate the out-of-town basketball fans that will be in Shelby for the tournament. One idea is to be open late on Friday, Dec. 9th. Browse and Brunch will be done again. Shop Small Saturday is on Nov. 26th.

OLD BUSINESS:

Coupon Book- The office has heard back from about half of the participating business for the 2017 Coupon Book. The new Coupon books should be available around November 1st. The current one expires on Oct. 31.

NEW BUSINESS:

October Meeting Locations- We will be meeting at The Griddle for our Monday Meetings except on Columbus Day, October 10th. Our Board Meeting is at Ten Pin Alley October 4th.

Social Media Campaign- This committee was formed earlier this year to promote the Chamber Facebook page. \$600 in funding was secured from the Shelby TBID for a prize fund. Community members are encouraged to submit pictures relevant to the monthly theme. October's theme is "Fall in love with Shelby", November- "Give thanks for..." and December's theme is "Hometown for the Holidays." Marsha McCubbins posts campaign photos on Monday, Wednesday and Friday but if there are more, she will post them. Please "Like" and "Share" the Shelby Area Chamber of Commerce facebook page and submit some pictures.

October Chamber After Hours- Marias River Electric Cooperative and the Shelby Gas Association is hosting on Tuesday, October 11 from 5:30 to 7 pm. They are kicking off their 1st Annual Food Drive at the event. Anyone bringing a food item will earn an extra door prize ticket. Don't forget to RSVP before noon on Friday, Oct. 7 and earn another door prize ticket. Please enter at their Hospitality Room door that evening.

Board of Directors Openings- Any Chamber member interested in serving on the Chamber Board of Directors please contact the Chamber office through email or call at 434-7184. The Board of

Directors make the decisions concerning the Chamber Banquet, Chamber Coupon Books, appreciation events for surrounding communities, Shelby Street Fair, Chamber finances, and the inner workings of the Chamber office. Please contact the office before October 7th so the election can be prepared before the Annual Chamber Meeting on October 31. If you have any questions regarding the duties of the Board of Directors Audie would happy to answer them.

Christmas Tree Village- Sanna Clark had a brilliant idea of having a Christmas Village showcase at the Lake Sheloole campground during December. Local businesses and clubs/organizations would be invited to decorate a tree/area at the campground. Most of the pine trees have electricity nearby for Christmas lights. The city has give approval for the project. A newly formed planning committee will meet at noon this Wednesday at Fieldstone Office Supply.

Barbara Wold Seminar is an international speaker, author and business strategist on hospitality and tourism. Lorette and Audie are hoping to secure a spring 2017 date for her to do a workshop in Shelby. Barbara's workshops give participants great information:

- New ways to market a business and get noticed with "NO" money.
- Stand back and take a better look (from a customer's perspective)
- Know the merchandise and services offered in the downtown and community
- Start a partnership with a business buddy.
- Step-up the customer experience (CX), mapping the customer's journey
- Turn everyone into a goodwill ambassador for the community, downtown and Main Street.

Business of the Week: The Creative Needle located at 325 Main Street has been in business 28 years providing their customers with the newest trends in fabric, notions and long arm quilting. Stop by and see their friendly, helpful staff for all your sewing and quilting needs.

Kudos of the Week- Special kudos to Travis Clark and Leavitt Group. Through the commitment of Eve Jacobsen, they have written a grant to the Nationwide Insurance Company for a grain rescue tube. They were fortunate to be a recipient of this national grant opportunity. The equipment and company trainers will be in Shelby on October 12th to train our volunteer fire department on this lifesaving equipment for our area producers.

OPEN FORUM:

The Toole County Sheriff's office is looking for reserve deputies.

Ten Pin Alley will be having a Halloween party on Friday, October 28th.

Meeting adjourned. Reported by Audie Bancroft.

Featured Coupon from the new 2015 Chamber Bonus Book:

Prairie Peddler- Buy 1 drink at regular price, get 2nd of equal or lesser at half price

**Buy a Chamber Bonus Coupon Book at Chamber office, Prairie Peddler,
Larson Clothing, Spa 30 & Boutique**