

October 17, 2016 Member Minutes
Shelby Area Chamber of Commerce

Members present: Matt Benjamin, Doug Fender, Cheri Hirst, Sandra Bucher, Lorette Carter, Mike O'Brien, Deb Brandon, Elliott Crump, Cindy Combs and Crissy Bauman

REPORTS:

City of Shelby

- The second Oct. City Council Meeting is on Monday, October 17th at 7:30 pm.
- The City Facebook page is promoting shopping local. We all need to work together to strengthen our local economy and support our local businesses that give so much to the community. Our local businesses are the one supporting school projects; local charities and gifts to those in need. Our local businesses create jobs and help pay taxes. They enhance our community and give so much in great customer services and hometown hospitality. When you shop, please think local first!
- The City was named as one of three finalists for the Montana Tree City of the Year for 2017. The Governor will make the final decision on the winning community. Our application seeks funds for the planting of trees at Champions Park.
- The City continues work on the documentation required to initiate the Big Sky Trust Fund Job Creation grant for Humic Growth Solutions, Inc.
- Work continues on the Data Center Feasibility Study.
- Mayor Bonderud, myself and several area residents visited with Bill Bryan, President, One Montana. (Attached is a flyer on the One Montana program)

Toole County

- The County completed the refinancing of some 2005 revenue bonds for the Clinic and the Marias Heritage for a savings of \$365,000 over 12 years.
- Last Wednesday the Commissioners met with area legislators to discuss mental health issues and the closure of the Boulder facility.
- The Commissioners also participated in the Memorial Suicide Walks in Shelby and Sunburst.
- On Friday, October 14 the Commissioners met with L. Governor Mike Cooney to discuss rural health care challenges.
- 820 Toole County absentee ballots were mailed out on Friday, October 14th.
- Last week was National Fire Prevention Week and the Shelby Volunteer Fire Dept. did a presentation at the Shelby elementary School. From July through Sept. the fire Dept responded to 16 rural fires and 14 fires in Shelby.

- North Western Energy reached a tax settlement with the State of Montana and got approximately an 8% reduction on their property taxes which will cost Toole County about \$40,000 in tax revenue. This will affect the local school also.

School District # 14

- The School Cafeteria Staff has implemented some new menus and have seen the highest percentage of students eating lunch in 5 years.
- There was good student involvement in the Homecoming events.
- The district has implemented a new 7- 12th grade Recognition Program. September's theme was "Best Attitude". The upcoming monthly categories are: Oct.- Most Improved Student; Nov.- Most Courageous; Dec. Best Peer; Jan. Best Student; Feb. Most Grit & Perseverance; Mar. Citizen Student of the Month; Apr. Student of the Year (encompassing all of the above qualities). The elementary school is adopting the program as well with a few minor changes.
- Last week's board meeting topics were: reinstated softball (no tennis); petition to remain at 11 man football for 2017-18; discussed the sports complex and the progress on the facility; discussed upcoming tournaments.
- Marias Medical Center did a blood drawing on October 12 for the teachers, staff and administration with 26 blood draws.
- October is a busy month with the following activities: FFA is presently at the FFA National Convention in Indianapolis. **Oct. 17-** Key Club Blood Drive in the high school gym; **Oct. 17-** Senior Volleyball Night; **Oct. 17-** 7/8 basketball practice starts; **Oct. 18-** 7 pm JH/HS concert; **Oct. 19-** Senior night for football & cross country; **Oct. 20-21-** No School MEA weekend (gym floor will be refinished); **Oct. 22-** state cross country meet in Kalispell; **Oct. 24-** 5/6th grade basketball practice starts; **Oct. 28-29-** speech & drama team competing in Browning; **Oct. 31-** Halloween Parade and K-2 field trips to Rest Home & Heritage Center; **Oct. 31 to Nov. 4-** College application Week; **Nov. 3-5th-** Divisional Volleyball in Shelby; **Nov. 1-** Jason DeShaw9singer/songwriter) to do a mental health assembly; **Nov. 8-** School Board Meeting;

Marias Medical Center

- On Monday, October 17th at 4 pm CCA will do a mock drill at MMC.
- Wednesday, October 19 is the annual MT Shakedown drill. (Earthquake)
- There will be no hot water at the facility on Wednesday, October 19 in the afternoon to inspect a curb stop. Thursday, Oct. 20 the curb stop will be dug up for repairs.
- The annual MMC Blood draws will be available at reduced pricing. (See Attached flyer)

CCA

- Eleven state auditors will be at the facility for the annual state audit.
- A new chaplain will be at the facility in November.
- A new Assistant principal started work on October 17th.
- Several new employees are looking for housing in the area.

Job Service

- The office has 106 job postings.
- New MT Dept. of Labor 5 in 1 posters have gone to print and will be available in January through the office. Sandra and Melinda will even deliver the posters to you office. DO NOT pay an outside source for this information.
- The state minimum wage increases to \$8.15 an hour in January.

Merchants Association meets on Tuesday, October 18 at 8 am at The Griddle. Discussion will cover Shop Small Saturday, Christmas Stroll, the Dec. 9 & 10 basketball tournament, and the Rockin' & Shoppin' Weekend.

OLD BUSINESS:

October Chamber After Hours- MRE & Shelby Gas Assoc. was postponed to Tuesday, Oct. 18 due to last week's snow storm. The event will be from 5:30 to 7 pm. Please enter at the Hospitality room door. Marias River Electric & Shelby Gas are kicking off their 1st Annual Food Drive at the event. Attendees who bring a food item will receive an extra door prize ticket.

Christmas Village- The organizing committee is taking signups for those who would like to decorate an area at the Lake Sheloole Campground. Local churches, businesses, clubs/organizations and families are encouraged to participate in this inaugural event which we hope to make an annual community event. Please contact the chamber office at 434-7184 or by email at shelbycoc@3rivers.net.

NEW BUSINESS:

2017 Coupon Book has been finalized and will be sent to the print. We hope to receive them by November 1st. The FFA, Jr. and Sr. high school wrestlers, Chamber office, Chamber Board Members, Larson Clothing and the Prairie Peddler will be selling them as soon as they arrive. We have two new businesses offering coupons and some of our old favorites have increased how often the coupons can be used during the year.

2017 Central MT Planner: The office sent out an invitation letter to local businesses asking them if they wanted to participate on the Shelby page in the 2017 Central MT planner. This stunning, full color, 68 page publication with 100,000 copies printed

and distributed in brochure racks throughout Montana. It is mailed to all who inquire about visiting our tourism region, both within the United States and internationally. The 2017 planner will also be distributed at 4 out of state travel shows in early 2017 while people are making their summer travel plans. A full color version of the travel planner, including all the advertising is also included on the Central Montana website. The notification deadline is Oct. 26.

Chamber Annual Meeting is slated for noon on Monday, Oct. 31 at The Griddle. Reports from the Chamber President and Executive Director will be given along with Chamber Income and Expense reports for 2016 will be distributed.

The Chamber Office will be closed on Tuesday, October 18 so Audie can attend a trial in Great Falls.

Business of the Week: *MARIAS HERITAGE CENTER IS JUST LIKE HOME..ONLY BETTER!*

Marias Heritage Center is a beautiful place to spend your senior years with peace of mind. Have a full life with more time for the people and things you enjoy without the chores and responsibilities of living alone. We have an excellent staff who are committed to quality care. Maintain your independence in a secure environment. Continue your present life-style; pursue your interests and hobbies, participate in your choice of activities. Join our community and enjoy life with friends. To arrange a tour of our residence call 434-3290. Live the good life with us at the Heritage Center!

Kudos of the Week:

Thad White was recognized for the great work he has done with the FFA and wrestling programs.

Deb Brandon thanked Elliot for his great monthly reports.

Deb thanked Lorette for the resource page she developed for senior citizens in Toole County.

OPEN FORUM:

The 1st Annual Ladies' Night Out is being held on Saturday, October 22 at the comfort Inn with refreshments and numerous local vendor booths.

Meeting adjourned. Reported by Audie Bancroft.

Featured Coupon from the new 2015 Chamber Bonus Book:
The Cinderella Shoppe- 20% off one regular price item (3uses)

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