

Chamber of Commerce
Minutes, May 10, 2007
Castle Rock Senior Center

President Coni Bush called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Members present: John Kramer, Rick Walton, Carolyn Kennington, Henry Karnofski, Myron Nelson, Linda Bauska, Coni Bush, Ryana Covington, Chief Bob Heuer, and guest Angela Hosenev from Cowlitz Today

Secretary's Report—Approved as printed

Treasurer's Report—Approved as printed

Approved the printing of the circus flyers and clown faces.

Approved a \$25. gift certificate for M. Ogden, auditor for her recent services

Sweatshirt Sale—Myron reported he has sold 77 sweatshirts and three caps.

Circus update—Coni expressed concern about a school Spring Concert that is on the same night as the circus. The peanut jar guessing contest is to be placed in the Wooster Building window. The closest guess without going over wins the jar of peanuts. Guesses will be turned in at the library and Crazy Chris's Deli. It was suggested that the clown coloring contest be held at both the Castle Rock and Toutle Elementary Schools. If okayed by the owners, it was suggested that the reader boards at the Mt. St. Helens Motel and the Castle Rock Bakery announce the circus.

Subsequent to the meeting Linda and Coni designed a clown coloring page. Myron received approval from Toutle and Castle Rock to have the coloring contest. Tickets to the circus would be prizes. The coloring contest would be from May 16 – 21. Carolyn will work with the Senior Center in judging the coloring contest. Flyers are printed and will go home on the 24th or 25th. Posters have been placed in the stores along with the flyers. On May 21st Myron will take "Skeeter" the clown around to the classrooms in Castle Rock and to an all school assembly in Toutle. At 9:30 a.m. on the 30th the public is invited to the raising of the "Big Top" at the fairgrounds

Pride Day—Carolyn gave her report on Pride Day. 90 people, half of them students and children, signed up to help. Several flats of flowers were planted along Cowlitz Street. Most of the assigned jobs were completed. In some cases workers did more than one assignment. A few of the workers came from as far away as Woodland. It was approved that Carolyn be reimbursed for all the expenses she had during Pride Day.

STP Breakfast—The Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a breakfast during the STP Bike run, July 14 & 15. The breakfast will be held on July 15th. No further discussion was held.

Exit 49 Sign—Coni passed around a sketch of a possible idea for the sign. After a brief discussion Coni was asked to revise the drawing and have it at the next Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Tour Buses—It was reported the Woodland Bus Company could make tours to Castle Rock once a month. We need to provide information as to what Castle Rock has to offer the tourists.

Information Sheet—Ryana has a rough draft and is still waiting for photos to be placed in the brochure. Also KEDO 1400 AM has free community news of Fridays 10 – 11 a.m. Information can also be placed on the Kelso/Longview Chambers website. Angela gave a brief report of cowlitztoday.com.

SCORE—Coni informed the group that SCORE (Assistance to businesses from retired business people) is now available in Longview.

Parking—Coni shared a letter she is going to present to the City Council on May 14th in regards to abuse of the 2 hour parking limit on Cowlitz Street. The Cowlitz Street business community feels they are losing sales when people take up parking spaces for an extended period of time which in some cases is all day.

Americatown.com—It was suggested that the members take a minute and view the information in regards to Castle Rock.

Announcements—Ryana reported the 2007 Chamber of Commerce membership letters have been mailed. It includes a flyer about the circus and a newsletter explaining many of the activities the Chamber of Commerce is involved in this current year.

Carolyn asked if a new sign would be placed on the old city jail to replace the one that was vandalized. John said it is being looked into.

Welcome plants will be given to Melody of First and Shamrock Meadows.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Next meeting will be June 14, 2007 (Flag Day) at the Castle Rock Senior Center. Plan to attend. The coffee pot will be on.