

CASTLE ROCK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2006

Castle Rock chamber President Coni Bush opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. in the Castle Rock Senior Center. Members present include: Brian McCready (Cowlitz Substance Abuse Coalition), Sharon Traub (Cowlitz Bank), Linda Bauska (Hatties Restaurant), Ryana Covington, Police Chief Bob Heuer and Sgt Scott Neves (City of Castle Rock), Jeannette Foster (DNR and Castle Rock Bakery) and Carolyn Kennington (Castle Rock Family Dental).

Secretary's Report - Members unanimously approved the minutes to the August 10, 2006 meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Sharon distributed the report showing an ending balance of \$5,457.14 and \$352.00 for Leaf For Relief Fund. Members unanimously approved the report.

Circus Fundraiser- Linda Bauska has researched and contacted other organizations to see if there had been any problems or concerns with Culpepper Circus. None were noted. Linda verified that the circus could be located at Castle Rock Fairgrounds. The date will be Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be two shows, scheduled for 5pm and 7:30pm. Linda said that people will be needed to sell tickets at the door. Advanced ticket sales also will be available to the public. She said that Carolyn Kennington will help to promote the event through the schools and Linda will coordinate other promotions, including a window display, possibly at the Wooster Building. The circus also provides a clown that comes to town, prior to the event. Brian McCready said that he could also get student volunteers through the Student Mentor programs.

Signage - Correspondence from Public Works Director Dave Vorse outlined a small change to one of the signs. Department of Transportation will allow the sign at Exit 48 to only have the logo and mileage information, but no decals showing available services. Otherwise, the city has agreed to pay 50% of the cost for the seven signs and the chamber will pay for the other 50%. Coni asked that a letter be sent to Dave and his staff thanking them for their work to assist the chamber with this project.

T-Shirt Fundraiser - A fund raising idea prompted by Secretary Myron Nelson, suggested that the chamber consider using the new logo on t-shirts. These could be sold at local businesses. Mark McCready advised that he has successfully used 'Advantage Screen Print' in Kelso. He will bring a sample to the next meeting. Members thought this was a good idea and Coni appointed Myron Nelson to head up this project.

Announcements- Coni thanked the Castle Rock Police Department for implementing a 'speed check' on Cowlitz Street West. Coni noted that it might be prudent to consider reducing the speed limit on this street and Chief Heuer agreed that this is something to

consider.

Covington reported on the city's progress to get funding for Cowlitz Street West reconstruction.

Coni stated a customer had commented that they received erroneous tourist information at the Exhibit Hall. Coni will contact John Kramer to see how this can be resolved. In addition, members stated they would appreciate a list of Castle Rock's services, activities, functions, etc. Possibly a flip file can be created and kept at business locations so that business employees can have a reference when questions are asked. Coni will ask John Kramer if his volunteers would be willing to gather information from businesses and services organizations for the flip file and then a committee will be formed to put the file together and disseminate to locate business owners. Linda, Sharon and Ryana volunteered to help put together the flip file after information has been gathered. Ryana will check to see if Hotel/Motel funds can be used for the flip files.

Chief Heuer listed some of the numerous activities available to visitors within our city limits. These include hike on 'The Rock', various picnic locations, Riverfront Trail, new sports complex, motorcycle races, Cinedome Theater, fishing, historic Exhibit Hall (and jail), craft/antique stores, many great restaurants, and shopping. Members asked if he would consider doing a video or picture montage to be put on the chamber website. Linda suggested they contact her daughter to see if she wants to assist with this project.

Covington reported that the Front Avenue sidewalk project will be delayed until next year. Bids received by the city were too high and this project will be rebid early next year.

Brian McCready announced that a Networking Café will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup> at the PUD Conference Room from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. He read a mission statement describing the purpose of this project, which is to connect and network families. There will not be a charge for attending the function, but donations are always welcome. Brian will bring promotional brochures to the next meeting.

Members discussed if they wanted to host a Public Forum in Castle Rock regarding the county's proposed Meth Initiative. Chief Heuer will coordinate this event to be held sometime in mid-October. More information will be available at the next chamber meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.

**NEXT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 8:30AM AT CASTLE ROCK SENIOR CENTER.**