

**Castle Rock Chamber of Commerce
Minutes, March 12, 2009**

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

Members present: Coni Bush (Lacey Rha's), Ryana Covington (City of Castle Rock), Carolyn Kennington (Cowlitz River Dental), Mike Vorse (Minuteman Press), Sharon Traub (Cowlitz Bank) Tina Linch (Washington State Parks (Seaquest)), Dawn Smith (Cowlitz County Tourism) and David Vorse (City of Castle Rock)

Secretary's Report - Approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report - Approved as printed. Balance of \$4,740.81. Sharon reported that the chamber's financial books have been audited by an independent auditor and everything has been found in order. Members voted to send a \$20 gift certificate for Lacey Rha's to the auditor as a thank you for her services.

Spring Clean-Up Day – April 18th from 8am – 1pm.

Dave Vorse stated that residents inside city limits can call 274-7478 for questions pertaining to allowable items to be accepted.

Carolyn stated that last year volunteers really enjoyed helping 'special needs' properties. These included properties where the residents were unable to clean up themselves due to health or physical issues. Dave will contact the Castle Rock Ministerial Association to seek their assistance in getting a list of those individuals who could use specialized help. Carolyn will also ask the Senior Center to start a sign-up list. Volunteers will then be assigned to these projects. Completion of the projects will depend on the need and the number of volunteers.

Coni left the meeting at 8:48 a.m. due to work obligations. Vice President Mike Vorse presided over the remaining meeting.

Carolyn announced that the Methodist Church will not be able to sponsor the volunteer lunch this year. She will be contacting Beth Coleman from the Lutheran Church to see if they would be interested in coordinating the lunch.

Carolyn made a motion, seconded by Sharon to have the Chamber of Commerce donate \$50 toward the volunteer lunch expenses. Unanimous Aye

Chamber requested that Ryana ask the City Council if they would be willing to

sponsor the clean-up event by allocating up to \$500 for printing and advertisement costs and also to cover the event through the city's liability insurer.

Carolyn reported the following:

- Mike Vorse will update and print the fliers
- Dawn will speak with Lori Higgins, Toutle Schools to inform her of the event so that students can get volunteer credits.
- Post Office personnel have advised that they want to do their own landscaping.
- Carolyn is waiting for information from Michele at Valley Bugler regarding the cost for inserts into the paper.
- Rita Baxter will contact Bredfield's Hardware to see if they will donate gloves.

Mike Vorse reported:

- spoke with Michelle Coughlin, Castle Rock Nursery. She has gift certificates already available if we want to use them, instead of printing our own. Chamber will fund the \$20 gift certificate for those who will be maintaining the planter boxes in the downtown area. The gift certificates will be available May 1st through June 1st. Michelle does not suggest planting be done earlier due to the possibility of cold weather. . . .

Health And Safety Fair – Scheduled for **March 28th** at the Senior Center. Ryana gave a status report, as provided by Myron. Vendors and the crews to set up and take down exhibits have been contacted. Myron will try to be there for the set up and partially during the Health and Safety Fair.

Membership Renewals – Mike stated he has printed 200 membership forms, in color. He stated that Ryana has offered to pay the difference between the black and white cost and the color cost. Members agreed that the color forms are better.

Tina made a motion, seconded by Sharon to have the Chamber pay the \$102 cost for the color copies for the membership forms. Unanimous Aye.

Mike suggested that a newsletter be sent with the membership renewals outlining the Chamber's accomplishments, projects and future plans. He will contact Ashley Opsahl-Scibelli to see if she could develop the newsletter.

Banner Replacement (Huntington Avenue) – Mike presented two quote estimates from a local supplier for the printed-two sided banners. Poly/Cotton with acrylic coating, 30" x 80", is \$2,279.89 for 12 banners and 18 oz vinyl for 12 banners is \$1,468.38. Members discussed how the banners were initially funded by

sponsorships from business owners. They agreed this again could be an option for funding and they discussed various suggestions as to how to set this up.

City Directories – members were requesting more copies of the directories. Mike will provide a price quote at the next meeting.

Announcements—

Ryana stated that she spoke with Mike Moss, from Cowlitz County. He is heading up the upgrade and reopening of Hoffstedt Bluff Visitor Center. Members stated they would be interested in Moss being a speaker at an upcoming meeting to discuss the changes and curriculum proposed for the center.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE APRIL 9, 2009, 8:30 A.M., AT THE CASTLE ROCK SENIOR CENTER.