

# Condon Chamber of Commerce

## August Meeting Minutes

### I. Call to order

- a) The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by Vice President Pat Reilley
  - i) Members present: Holly Adam; President, Pat Reilley; Vice President, Vicki Ackerman, Jessica Barnett, Delaney Watkins; Board Members, K'Lynn Lane; Executive Director, Max Klare, Mac Stinchfield, Rod McGuire, Julius Courtney, Steve Allen, Eileen Flory.

### II. Approve July Meeting Minutes

- a) Eileen made a motion to approve the July meeting minutes. Rod Seconded, motion passed unanimously.

### III. Treasurers Report


- a) Budget expenditures as of July. Income \$50,000 Expenditures \$54,000.

### IV. Staff Report

- a) Phone:49    Email:107    Visitors:92    Referrals: 81    Assists: 23    Facebook: 1267    Website: 1447
- b) Gary Gruner new Chamber of Commerce Member
- c) Community Service Tokens given to: Jim Heidy, Jonna Rattray, Jeff & Nichole Schott Family, Bennett's Tire & Auto Service, Blake Carnine, Serena Humphrey's & OYCC Group.
- d) Correspondence from Jim Moore BRNW: Condon was noted as being one of the best host towns they have ever had! BRNW donated an additional \$500 to the Condon School District.
- e) Sponsored by Painted Hills Natural Beef, K'Lynn attended the Eastern Oregon Economic Summit
- f) Webworks presentation will take place on October 3<sup>rd</sup> 5:30-8 pm. All businesses are encouraged to participate! Joni Kabana will speak about Social Media do's and don'ts and tips on taking photos to promote your businesses products and services. Learn more about using the internet to develop your business and what high speed internet can do for you! More information coming soon!
- g) Chamber After Hours & Retirement Celebration for Mac & Jan Stinchfield will take place on August 15<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm at the Veterans Memorial Hall.

### V. Business

- a) Summer Concerts/Artisans Market
  - i) Event-Wrap Up - Feedback shared by members. We are seeking your comments and suggestions for next years events!
  - ii) Appoint 2020 Steering Committee
    - (1) We would like to appoint a steering committee for next years Summer Concerts in the Park. If you are interested in joining the steering committee please contact us here at the Chamber.

- 
- (a) Steve Allen, Jessica Barnett Eileen Flory expressed interest. We would like 2 additional members to help this group collaborate on creating another incredible line up for bands in 2020.

b) We Speak- John Day River Territory

The Condon Chamber of Commerce is partnering with Travel Oregon to develop an initial pilot for a We Speak John Day River Territory program that will launch in early 2020.

We Speak is an education and training program targeted for tourism staff in destinations. Participating destinations compile key information about signature tourism opportunities and host trainings for local tourism staff related to them. The outcome of the program is broader awareness across the destination about what there is to do and how best to access the destination's assets and experiences. Successful implementation of the program also supports a more engaged and customer service-oriented tourism workforce that treats every visitor interaction as an opportunity to inspire longer and return stays.

Program objectives:

- Provide professional development opportunities for local tourism staff
- Engage local tourism staff and visitors around what makes their destination unique
- Develop community pride and strengthen brand identity of destination

The Condon Chamber of Commerce is interested in hearing from you about what training topics would be of interest for your business. It is also interested in learning how the upcoming trainings will be most useful to local tourism staff.

We will be hosting informational and strategic meetings here in Condon to collaborate with regional stakeholders to distinguish their topics. We are the catalyst for this project in our region and are being given the opportunity to pilot this program.

The Condon Chamber of Commerce is proposing that the initial pilot focuses on educating tourism staff about the following training topics:

- hiking and camping
- fishing
- photography

We need to hear from you, what topics would you like to highlight? Once the initial three training topics are confirmed, the Condon Chamber of Commerce will identify and work with local experts to help inform the key visitor messages related to each of the topics.

c) Sponsorship Opportunities

- i) Scarecrow Contest (\$75 Sponsorship Opportunity to sponsor the 2019 Scarecrow Contest)
- ii) Light Festival & Parade- Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative will sponsor the awards
- iii) Shop Small Promotion (\$200 sponsorship opportunity)

d) Battle of the Bulbs Lighting Contest & Community Decorating

- i) December 1<sup>st</sup> 1 PM - Community Decorating
  - (1) Meet at the Condon Chamber of Commerce at 1 PM. We will disperse down Main Street and decorate the light poles and help those Main Street Businesses get decorated and Lit Up for the Holidays.

- e) Condon Light Festival & Parade
  - i) December 7<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 PM-Parade Participants WANTED!
- f) Festival of Trees Event & Fundraiser
  - i) December 13<sup>th</sup> Auction and Dinner
    - (1) Community walk through December 12<sup>th</sup>
    - (2) This new event is still in the early stages of being planned. Please be patient as detail unfold.
- g) Cub Scouts
  - i) What will your child's future hold? The Boy Scouts of America is an organization that works hard to give children a brighter future. The mission of the Boy Scouts is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. Scouting also provides youth with skills that help them cope with any situation.  
The Condon community has shown an interest in starting up a local pack and have been fully endorsed by the Condon Elks Lodge as their Charter Organization. However, we need volunteers to make a local pack a possibility. We are seeking community members, retired teachers or past Scouts to contact K'Lynn (208) 908-9389 or Jessica Barnett (541) 261-1523 to find out more information or to sign up to volunteer.  
If your child will be participating, please contact K'Lynn or Jessica to get them added to the list!  
Who wants to help make Cub Scouts in Condon a possibility? In order to get the pack established we need a Cub Master who wants to help lead the pack and several Den leaders (Dens are broken down by age groups). This will require parent and community support there are several volunteer opportunities and roles to fill and if you are interested in participating in any capacity please inquire.
  - ii) Jessica Oster of the Boy Scouts of America will be present on Thursday August 29<sup>th</sup> 1-4 PM at the Gilliam County Fairgrounds to answer any questions you might have.
- h) Out of Office August 19-22
  - i) K'Lynn will be out of the office August 19-2 and is seeking volunteers to man the office. Do you want to volunteer? 8/20 or 8/21 from 12-3 pm? If so, please let us know!

## **VI. Correspondence**

- a) New Hours Gilliam County Historical Society (Friday - Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm/Sunday - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm)


## **VII. Member Announcements**

- a) Wheatland Insurance is celebrating 10 years in Condon and invite you to attend a Customer Appreciation lunch on October 11<sup>th</sup> from 11-2 pm.
- b) Julius Courtney expressed how grateful he is to be working and partnering with the Condon Chamber of Commerce. He thinks we are an excellent organization and driving 80 miles to attend the Condon Chamber of Commerce meetings is more than worth it. Julius noted some significant progress with the Woolery Group. He announced that this years Oktoberfest event will be held at the site they hope to build the barn on and thanked the Arlington City Council for their support. The 40-acre property was donated by the City of Arlington and allows for beautiful views of the community. Rod & Julius encourage you to continue to support this project and invite you to attend this year's event.

- c) Holly Adam-The new Sinclair Station is open for business now 24 hours a day for fuel customers with a new pay at the pump option. Holly assured those present that a green dinosaur was on its way and that it will be a wonderful photo opportunity for those traveling through our community.
- d) Times Journal-Steve Allen thanked the community for their support and patience as they get their feet under them at the TJ. He noted they have a new folding machine and stapler that will allow for them to do all sorts of different printing jobs. Don't forget to get a subscription to the TJ.
- e) Mac Stinchfield-Retirement is going well, and the Stinchfield family grew by one on Friday August 2<sup>nd</sup> as Mac & Jan welcomed their second grandchild Blake Maclaren Stinchfield was born on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and all are doing well.
- f) The Condon Young Life group will be meeting September 9<sup>th</sup> 7:07 pm at the Firehall High School ages welcome!
- g) GOBHI-Eileen Flory noted that GOBHI is working hard to bridge the gap between physical and mental health. GOBHI is working to advocate for the whole person.
- h) Bank of Eastern Oregon is doing a School Supply Drive. Materials can be donated and delivered to your local branch office.

### **VIII. Upcoming Events**

- a) Retirement Party/Chamber After Hours August 15<sup>th</sup> 5:30 PM
- b) Gilliam County Fair - August 29-September 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - i) Auction and Dinner August 31<sup>st</sup>
    - (1) Brisket Dinner/\$20 Adults Children's Dinner/\$10
    - (2) Beef/Sheep Re-sale contact Katie Re' Pig Re-sale April Aamodt
- c) ATV Ride & Poker Run - September 7<sup>th</sup> 9 AM
  - i) \$20/Rider \$10/Poker Run
- d) Business & Residential Scarecrow Contest October 1-31<sup>st</sup>
  - i) Entry Deadline October 20<sup>th</sup>
- e) Oktoberfest- 10/19/2019
- f) Condon Scholarship Foundation Dinner 10/19/2019
- g) Trick or Treat Main Street 10/31/2019 3 PM
- h) Fall Festival 11/23/2019 10-3 pm
- i) Condon Light Festival & Parade 12/7/2019
- j) Condon Festival of Trees Fundraiser/Event 12/13/2019
- k) Elks Annual 12/14/2019



**IX.** Adjournment Meeting was adjourned at 9:33 AM

**X.** Next Meeting September 12<sup>th</sup> - 8:30 AM