

Granite Falls Chamber of Commerce
Minutes for July 14th, 2009

Introductions: Members present: Debbie Taylor, Jim Kapelke, Christina Kitchen, Vervia Gabriel, Paul Long, Cecil Andrews, Mark Sarandos, Trisha Broughton, Lyle Romack, Wes Grigg, Haroon Saleem, Danny Meeks

New Business

Old Business

Update on RR Days: No RR day's committee members are present, however we do know that there is a mom and daughter team working on the parade this year and the vendor applications have started to go out.

Newspaper update: There was a meeting with Ken Robinson the owner/editor of the Granite falls press. As it stands right now the paper could not support itself right now on its own with the advertising that it has, ken has been putting his money into keeping it going. However some of our concerns were addressed at the meeting, possibly having a priority list of what articles we would like to see go in the paper, Procrastination on the paper and miss quotes in the paper, possibly having an online paper, and a free paper vs. a small charge for the paper. Over all it was felt to have been a constructive meeting but we have still not heard back from ken. We are still waiting to find out if Trisha is going to work with ken and help write articles for the paper or not. For the Next paper it was discussed having city achievements in the paper. 1. Alternate route, 2 Ice Caves reopening and 3 AWC award for the Lake Gardner project.

Update on Motor Cross Track- Committee: Mark reported that he has emailed Gary and is waiting for copies of the studies so that we can get facts together to get our support campaign organized. Mark has been talking to the VA recovery center and working with them to change their views on the project and gain their support, it was proposed that we find a way to have they Vets help at the track. There is an ambulance available to be located on site when needed, Mark has been up around the proposed site and looking for private property owners that will be affected, he has emailed and is waiting for replies from other track owners in CA to discuss opposition they ran into and also the benefits provided by the track to the community. Waiting for facts from Gary for the website, and a copy of the noise study, we need letters of support, we will be working towards a petition of support and we are waiting for a hearing date. The group that is in opposition is the Mountain Loop Conservancy. The three larger topics are noise, traffic and

pollution. Paul is waiting for a response from the Monroe chamber to talk about what it was like with the track that was there.

Form Marketing Committee: Debbie has talked to Fred Cruger and his is a member of the committee for funding for brochures for Snohomish counties cities, he will be sending her some information on how to get funding for brochures for our town.

Food Drive (Paul Long): for the Fathers house food bank. Ace hardware will be providing something for a raffle prize. He is working on boxes for the food drive; Gencare , Pharm-a-Save and Timberline have offered to be a drop off for food items. Paul needs volunteers to help beat the pavement the weekend of show n shine to hand out bags to local residents and pick them back up later; it was proposed that someone talk to the high school football team for help. Also possible, Safeway in Lake Stevens for a drop box.

Chamber Website (Cecil): We went live on the membership database, passwords were handed out to members, we are working on an online membership applications right now we are having some trouble with bots filling out fake apps so Cecil is installing a graphics code so we won't have that problem. Check the website out if you have not!

Business to business update:

- Granite Falls Hardware will now be an ACE Hardware, it is the first time in 8 years that ACE has stepped in an helped an old store. This is very exciting. Danny is looking forward to store prices going down and profits up. It has been a lot of work but is coming along nicely. Look for the New sign to be hung sometime towards the end of July.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Next meeting July 28th at 8:00 am