



## Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce

### Board Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2023 – 4:00 PM



#### **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL:** Meeting started at 4:06pm –

- Derek Jones – President
- JoEll Byrnes – VP,
- Dianne Marrs-Smith – Secretary
- Linda Galle-Parent – Treasurer (left at 5:24pm)
- Danielle Gaughen - Executive Director
- Sacha Sanguinetti – Events Coordinator
- Dan McEvoy – Director
- Matt Berry – Director
- Doralee Booth County Liaison
- Molly Ernst – Director

#### **Members of the Public:** Patrick Alesse

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Patrick:** *Eddie Lathers' birthday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, at Latitude 49, started Polar Plunge, would be nice if the Chamber could honor him. He was the owner of Tide Flats Inn. Danielle will wright something up.*

**Derek Jones:** *Derek is stepping down as Birch Bay Deputy. He made Detective. He will end his term April 25<sup>th</sup>. The new Deputy has not been filled. Derek will remain Chamber President.*

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** February 2023: **Motion Approved**

#### **REGULAR BUSINESS:**

- Member of the Month – John Roy – Birch Bay Bike Shop – **Motion Approved**

#### **Financial Report & Executive Report** – Danielle: **Motion Approved**

- Banner Bank Balance As February 28<sup>th</sup>:
  - General Account: \$76,111.71
  - Petty Cash: \$111.45
- As of today:
  - General Account: \$82,656.02
  - Petty Cash: \$509.70
- LTAC Balance: \$111,882.12 – Received January Reimbursement of \$8,980.26. February 9,137.62 was submitted.
- Danielle answered questions regarding P&L & Kite Fest vendor fees.
- BBBPRD2 approved \$20K for funding of our 2023 Events – Noted that our board was strong and that they support our events.
- Porta-Potties – must do long-term rentals. Short term is too expensive. Working with Honey Bucket and Whatcom County & Dianne at Birch Bay Library for locations on long-term rentals.
- Visitor numbers are on par with last month.
  - Will be using the mobile visitor's booth this summer around Birch Bay. Mary-Jane Saturday's.
    - Danielle asked to get a new laptop and give Mary Jane her old laptop and a small printer.
    - JoEll Board Motioned; Linda Second to purchase \$2,000 on laptop and a printer of up to \$200. Short discussion & **Motion Approved Unanimously.**
    - Molly suggested a locking mechanism – will look into it.
- Mary Jane doing great – Doing fun engaging Tic-Toks; background in marketing & design. Can pick up where Danielle & Sacha leave off on the weekends.
- More signs will be going out as the weather gets better. Patrick helped put a few out.
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- Memberships - 151 – Working on getting new members.
  - Talked about dropped members; unpaid members & noted working on recruiting new members.



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**Event Coordinator Report – Sasha**

- Freddie Lane interested in doing another Totem Event.
  - Wants a very short turnaround, which is impossible.
  - Will help with some promotion of their need for funding.
- Good meetings with Silver Reef and Phillips 66, feeling good about **sponsorships** from them.
- Looking for **Vendors** for all events – send them to Sacha.
- **Discover Thursdays:** are going well. This week Birch Bay Bike Shop & Next week is Matt Berry.
- **Kite Festival** is coming together. Reached out to Blaine Senior Center for Storytime, Kite Making and Kite Flying. Looking for a strong kite vendor. JoEll thinks we should ask people at Bellingham Bay with trick kites to see if they would be interested in coming out. Doralee says Roland Middleton is a kite flyer. Sasha will invite him.
- **Rollback** – County will likely accommodate us for car show. There will be restrictions. We will move on if too cumbersome. Fee schedule will be \$600 per day.
- **Derby Day** is shaping up. We will have a vendor market.
- Doing an ala cart type **sponsorship** this year. By next week Sasha will be contacting sponsors.
- **Buzz Pod Podcast** will go out the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Debbie with Wings Over Water will be in March. Ideas for interviews, let Sasha know. Good ads. Doralee would like to us have Sheriff Elfo on Buzz Pod – Doralee to do the interview? Doralee would like us to have Sheriff Elfo come to a luncheon in the fall so we can thank him. Derek suggests August or October.
- **Events Chairs:**
  - **Kite Fest** – Di
  - **Sand Sculpture** – Doralee
  - **Rollback** – JoEll
  - **National Night Out** – Derek
  - **Parade** – Molly/Matt
  - **Duck Derby** – JoEll/Linda
  - **Trick or Treat** – Dan
  - **Ring of Fire and Hope** – Derek
  - **Polar Plunge** – Derek/JoEll
- **Beach Bar Remodel & Support:** Mandated by County & looking for support/sponsorships.
  - Randall has let us use his property for parking for events & his location provides a great space for advertising to thousands of individuals who come to Birch Bay for his event venue.
  - Chamber Board voted to pay for use of field for parking for applicable events.
  - Chamber Board voted to pay for banner space for advertising – Visitor Center location & Events.
  - Danielle had not thought of a dollar amount more than \$1,500, Board discussed more than that:
    - County Rate for Beach Park is \$600/day as a starting point.
      - Sand/Rollback (2) & Derby Day (1).
    - Pricing for Advertising to be discussed and negotiated by JoEll, Sacha, Matt & Randall.
      - Billboards tend to go for \$300/month in various locations.
  - Motions were attempted to be made to create a rental agreement with The Beach Bar & Randall for 2 event weekends in 2023 for parking & advertising for the summer.
    - This conversation was tabled until we send a contract/letter of intent/MOU to Randall and figure out more logistics. JoEll, Sacha, Matt will go talk to Randall & report to the Board.
    - JoEll to write up a contract after that.
- **Blue Sign – to be installed at the Waterslides.**
  - JoEll said that Dream Maintenance could take care of that (Shooting for March 15<sup>th</sup>)



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**COUNTY LIASON REPORT – Doralee Booth**

- Library crew went to Olympia. Good meeting with Senators and Representatives. Waiting to hear about our scope change request. Crew feels hopeful.
- Stop sign ordinance: Council gave 7-0 yes vote to approve the original ordinance.
  - 65 People met with Ellenbaas at Tony's Tavern.
  - He heard our story of why this will not work for Birch Bay
  - County Council went on until 10:00pm with public comment regarding ordinance.
    - Currently a law, and there is a time limit on when the stop signs need to go in.
    - Didn't know how to re-write the ordinance.
    - Council to take a field trip with Public Works on how to fix the issue.
  - Doralee asked for support of the board to try to organize:
    - Doralee to ask Council to develop an official Birch Bay Advisory Committee.
      - That way the planners would have a contact for anything they need to do and get actual feedback from residents.

**Incorporation Committee Report – Matt Berry**

- Birch Bay Community PAC has been formed.
  - Will put out a survey soon.
  - Deciding on Rollout Plan
  - Late April will have a meeting and talk to people that have been involved in other business.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Jackets and Shirts – Tabled until next meeting
- Helping Bea to promote the Historical Society – She is out of town until Spring.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Birch Bay Egg Hunt** – Help to Promote
- **Dianne & Friends** to do a 7-10 minute craft
- **Molly motioned to spend \$100 buy prizes for the Egg Hunt. JoEll Second – No discussion Motion Approved.**
  - Danielle will purchase and have in time for the egg hunt.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

- After Hours Networking, March 30<sup>th</sup>, possibly Semiahmoo
- Board April Meeting, Thursday, April 13, 2023

Adjournment – 5:34pm Minutes submitted by Dianne Marrs-Smith, Secretary Reviewed and Edited by Danielle Gaughen, Executive Director