

Business Meeting 5/14/2021

Note: Denny reads the prayer, Shannon takes the notes

Announcements:

Stacey from Family Tree expressed her gratitude for all of the participation throughout April by 'Wearing Blue on Mondays' and pinwheel sales (both pins and whirly-gigs). Thanks for everyone's support as they had a great month!

District Fundraiser-

Don't forget to bring your MT made adult beverages/snacks for the Made in Montana Cooler donation for the district fundraiser. Bring MT made beer, wine, booze, or snacks, that would be great. Don't feel like shopping? We accept cash! Let Dina know if you would like to give cash and a gift can be purchased for you. **All donations are due next friday, May 21, 2021. Bring your donations to the breakfast meeting** and Dina can schlep the basket to Butte for the District Convention.

Officer Reports:

- No changes to the membership from last board meeting. We are sitting at 146 members.
- Ed - We have some money, but it is dwindling. We still have \$40k in savings, so we are ok for now. In the next couple of months though, earning some money would be ideal. If you need your dues invoice resent, please email Ed and he can get that to you.
- Bruce was not present, thus no report.
- Mike - We were asked to serve beer at Brews & BBQs again. The event will be held mid-July. This is a non-Metra event, and will have the same price points as last time.

Committee Reports:

-Website committee-our vendor needs a social security number from someone; Ed stated that we are looking at a US Bank option currently, but things are underway.

-Bites of Billings was a 'scrum-diddly-umptious' success! \$9,500 was earned for Family Tree Center with two more restaurants to report out still. Let's make next year's event bigger and better!

-We are considering options for a permanent meeting place; a venue with breakfast and space, or a caterer that will be willing to come in to serve breakfast. Rene is checking in with MSU-B still, and Wiley has a few leads, but we are working on it. Stay tuned...

-Capital Campaign-Dina had an idea to start a capital campaign for BEC's own permanent space. The thought is to perhaps purchase an event center, a place for breakfast and some conference rooms appropriate for board and committee meetings. Non profits do this all the time, and there is money out there, we just need to tap into those possibilities. One example is the Alberta Bair that successfully secured their own space utilizing a capital funds campaign. We need to think BIG and out of the box.

-Possible ideas would include having businesses support the efforts by being donors and having their business' name put on a brick or on some part of the location.

-The question was asked about the Elks Lodge; they are a fraternal organization, thus, they can only sell to another fraternity.

Contract:

-Gene drafted a contract that matches the RFP that was initially put out. The County Attorney was able to get our business moved up the ladder to be heard sooner. Within the next few days, we should hear a response. We will continue to push on this, and **there is hope**.

-Even if we get the contract, it will not be the same amount of money that we earned historically, so we still need to stay on top of the ideas for fundraising outside of this structure.

-Buffalo Wild Wings was given a single contract for May to serve at the events.

Last but not least:

Those of you who choose to post your opinions on social media to get the word out that BEC would like the support of the community: PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL AND MONITOR THE COMMENTS ON YOUR POSTS. If anyone is name-calling or using foul language to slam or otherwise defame the Metra or Commissioners, this is NOT the type of press or attention we want attracted to our club. We are not out of the running for the contract at this time, so please keep it respectful. Stating our opinion respectfully is one thing, but we do not want attention drawn to even non-members posting ugly words and comments that could negatively reflect on the club. Be the moderators of your own posts.

Example: State in your post that "The information posted is my opinion, and opinions are welcome, however if any negative comments are made the posts will be removed."