

**MINUTES**  
**CHAMBER MEETING**  
*DRAFT*

October 15, 2008  
Noon  
May Farms

The monthly meeting of the I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce was called to order at 12:07 p.m. Chamber President Elect, John Knight.

**Roll was called** with the following Board Members present:

Sheila Cooper	Chris Deverell	John Knight
Tina Lewis	Luanne Lown	Lindsay Wheaton

The following Board Members were absent:

Bonnie Damschen	Gary Duke	Al Holcomb
Becky Mogensen	Chris Pastori	Jenna Workman

Guests attending were:

Karen Grossaint	Exquisite Possibilities, LLC
Wil Chase	Byers General Store
Kirk Holwell	Colorado First National Bank
Jim Lunsway	Colorado First National Bank
Jen Vansyoc	Arapahoe Library District
Kathy Dowd	Byers Community Assn.
Patty Doyle	HFPF
Tom Anderson	Tornado Alley Carpet Cleaning
Dolores Tippet	Byers Community Assn.
Joyce Babb	Teacup Oasis Alpacas
Sheila Cooper	SWWD
Pat Nettesheim	KIT Insurance
Michele Yowell	Strasburg Academy
Laura Franceschi	Primerica Financial Service
Diane Taylor	Taylor's Body & Frame
Tim Edgar	SBDC
Linda Olsen	SBDC

Board Secretary, Luanne Lown, took Minutes. A quorum was present.

**Hearing of Interested Parties:**

The Minutes of the September 17, 2008 Board Meeting were submitted for approval. Motion was made by Chris Deverell and seconded by Pat Nettesheim approve the Minutes as written. The motion was carried by voice vote.

**Secretary's Report.**

NEW MEMBERSHIPS  
Primerica Financial Services

Teacup Oasis Alpacas  
Plains Medical Center  
Rollin Stone Auto Sales, LLC

#### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

American Pride Co-op  
C & E Designs Promotional Products  
Christina Pastori, RE/Max Alliance  
Exquisite Events  
Morgan Community College  
Pampered Hands and Feet, LLC

A motion was made by Karen Grossaint and seconded by Patty Doyle to accept the October new and renewal members. The motion was carried by voice vote.

**Treasurer's Report—Sheila Cooper.** A motion was made by Patty Doyle and seconded by Kathy Dowd to approve the Treasurer's Report as written. The motion was carried by voice vote.

#### **Old Business:**

1. Business & Service Expo – 27 booths have been reserved for the EXPO with about 8 craft fair booths from the Bennett Basketball team to be mixed in. Jen Vansyoc reported the Arapahoe Library District will have a data specialist there to help businesses. Flu shots are available for \$25.00 less a \$5.00 rebate.
2. Christmas night in Strasburg- Chris Deverell reported that the group that had planned past events was going on this. The dentists are sponsoring the reindeer that will be in town from 4 to 7 p.m. Chestnuts are being roasted. Craft booths will be in both the Valley Bank and Guaranty Bank. Sponsorships are still available for the hot cider and other options. Please contact Chris Deverell if you are interested in participating.

#### **New Business:**

1. Pay Pal up and running. You can pay for lunch, membership dues, make a donation with your credit card from home. Terrye Hoffman was available to answer any questions that we might have about it.
2. May Farms Christmas party – Tina Lewis invited everyone to the open party at May Farms on Friday, December 12. They will have a buffet open from 5:30 to 8. Entertainment will start at 7:00. It is a great place for small businesses to have their parties. Reservations are requested.

#### **Guest Speaker**

Tim Edgar and Linda Olson of the Small Business Development Center gave a broad overview of the FREE services they have to offer local businesses. The SBDC is funded by the state, and offers help to both new and existing businesses. They can help you develop a business plan, explore avenues of financing, and other ways to manage your business. You can reach them to schedule your own in depth sessions at 1-800-622-0216 ext 3256.

#### **Announcements:**

There will be a board meeting on Monday, October 27 at 7:00 at the Muegge House.

A Women for Rural Business seminar is scheduled for February 26, 2009 at May Farms. This is an all day seminar with workshops on Business planning, marketing, business management, business legal advice, panel of lenders and much more.

**Dates to remember:**

**October 16** – REAP meeting at Antelope Hills Club House with Progressive 15 members explaining ballot issues this year.

**October 17** – Final Deadline for Registration for the Business and Service Expo due in the office.

**November 1 – Business and Service Expo at Bennett High School Gym and Lobby** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Setup may begin at 8:00 a.m.

**November 8<sup>th</sup> - Bennett To Honor Veterans** – The Town of Bennett, in observance of Veterans Day, is inviting the public to attend a ceremony honoring veterans of the I-70 Corridor on Saturday, November 10th. The event will take place at the Bennett Community Center, 1100 West Colfax at 5:00 p.m.

The Board of Trustees requests all citizens, schools, businesses, places of worship, media, and civic and fraternal organizations to recognize the valor and sacrifice of our veterans through the display of the flag of the United States and appropriate ceremonies. They recognize the millions of our citizens whose military service has had a profound effect on history.

**Fifth Annual Chili Cook-Off** – The Town of Bennett will hold their Fifth Annual Chili Cook-Off following the Veterans Day celebration. New to the program this year is the Cook-Off will be open to the entire community. We encourage you to whip up your favorite recipe and enter the competition. Come and enjoy delicious and unique chilis and vote for your favorite. Prizes will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The Bennett Community Food Bank Advisory Board will be furnishing desserts.

This event is **free** and open to the public. Please join us for an evening of honoring our military, a fun chili rivalry, good food, and visiting with our neighbors while kicking off the holiday season. Donations of non-perishable items will be graciously accepted by the Food Bank.

**November 15<sup>th</sup> - Bennett Young at Heart Seniors** – Craft fair, flea market and bake sale at the Bennett Community Center from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Price for the tables are \$10 each for the craft fair or flea market. Contact Shirley Kuzara at 303-644-4768 to reserve a table for the day.

**Chamber Meeting at 12:00 on November 19, 2008 at May Farms.**

**December 6th - Breakfast with Santa** – This is a wonderful activity for young and old alike! Come and enjoy the pancake breakfast, pictures taken with Santa Claus, craft fair, and have a good old-fashioned visit with your friends and neighbors. Local artisans will display and sell their crafts. This event is held at the Bennett Community Center, 1100 W. Colfax Ave., from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Proceeds are used to sponsor selected eastern I 70 Corridor families for Christmas.

**December 7th - Lighting of the Tree of Lights** – A festive outdoor holiday program precedes the lighting of the beautiful Tree of Lights at the Historic Charles Muegge House, 401 S. First St. High Five Plains Foundation sponsors the event, which begins at 5:00 p.m.

**Parade of Lights/Chili Supper** – Following the Tree of Lights ceremony, the Parade of Lights will be held. The parade will take place on Palmer and Washington Avenues. A chili supper sponsored by the local Victims' Advocates will complete the evening's events at the VFW. For parade entry please contact Dave Dummar at 303-644-3122.

**December 12** – Christmas Party at May Farms – Join others for a buffet and evening of entertainment. Cost is \$25.00 per person. For more information and to make your reservation contact May Farms at [www.mayfarms.com](http://www.mayfarms.com).

**December 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, & 19<sup>th</sup> - Annual Holiday Lighting Contest** – The Town of Bennett will again sponsor the annual Holiday Lighting Contest. All residents **within the Bennett Town limits** are invited to participate. Judging will take place on one of the following nights: December 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, or 19<sup>th</sup>. First prize is \$100, second prize is \$75, and third prize is \$50. To enter, just leave on your lights between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

**November 19** – Chamber Meeting at noon at May Farms

**December 6** – Christmas Night in Strasburg. Enjoy an old fashioned Christmas. Caroling roasted chestnuts, hot cider and fun galore. Craft booths are available. Santa and his reindeer will appear at Guaranty Bank. Some local businesses will extend their hours for your shopping convenience.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

***I-70 Corridor Chamber of Commerce Mission Statement***

Our goal is to promote the planned growth and development of our communities by bringing together business and community leaders to work together for the common good. We wish to maintain and support the quality of life that makes Eastern Colorado such a special place. Our desire is to preserve and promote the competitive enterprise system that makes America great. We will strive to be the organization recognized as the focal point of the I-70 Corridor