



General Membership Meeting Minutes **Thursday, January 25th, 2018 at 6:00 PM at the GN Lodge Room**

- **Present:** Ashley Stuart, Juli Snedigar, Anne Boothe, Anna Merriman, Kathy Bagley, Jessica Oyler, Duane Murray, April Ritchey, Kelly Murray, Gary Knudsen, Gina Simanton, Scott Simanton, Jake Stuart, Richard Dunbar, Bob Galt, Mark Kunze, Lisa Kunze, Bill Myers, Ann Sautter, Carmen Norville, Bruce Christofferson, Marko Manoukian, Linda Manoukian, Logan Lund, Carly Bishop, Misty Kuhl, Matt Kuhl, Casey Cote.

- **Call to Order & Welcome:** President Mark Kunze called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present at the meeting. President Kunze thanked First Security Bank, First State Bank and Independence Bank for sponsoring the appetizers and the GN for hosting the meeting. President Kunze also recognized and thanked the PhillCo executive board, board of directors and community fund committee members.

- **Review Minutes/Financial Transactions:** Review/approve minutes from Nov. 30th, 2017 and financials as presented. There is one outstanding bill from Helland Law Firm. They drafted a letter that we have not sent. Recommendation from the Executive Board was to pay the bill for \$338.75 from the MBIDD capital reserve account. Richard Dunbar moved to pay the bill from the MBIDD capital reserve account, Logan Lund seconded, motion carried. Marko Manoukian moved to approve the minutes and financial report. Logan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- **Administrative Report and Project Updates:**
 - **Meetings/Conferences**
 - **MT Missouri River Country** – Ashley gave a meeting report; Dec. and Jan. meetings were via Conference Call – Nelson Reservoir fishing photos needed, Windfall advertisement is the new advertising agency for Missouri River Country. Missouri River Country was awarded a \$28,000 tourism grant awarded to MMRC from the state for new website development by Windfall. ZortmanMontana.com is up and running, radio campaign complete and new signs.
 - **Bear Paw Development** – Dec. meeting, 2018 BPD Work Plan review, Annual Meeting Date set for February 22nd. Once Ashley knows a location, she will let everyone know.
 - **Hi-Line Future Foundation** – Meeting set for Feb. 6th with Mayor Demarais and Interstate Engineering
 - **Phillips County Needs Assessment Group** – No December meeting, Jan. 30th next set meeting. Ashley and Anne met with Dr. Veseth to talk about when he retires.

- **Old Business/Ongoing Business:**
 - **MBIDD: Old Malta Airport cleanup** – Ashley reported on the meeting with Mayor Demarais. Ashley, Marko and Mark were able to meet with Mayor Demarais. Mayor Demarais stated that he cannot undo what has already been done, but he is in favor of all parties having a conversation. In the future PhillCo will be able to work with NewFields on the cleanup. PhillCo has received a letter from Hi-Line Law since the meeting. The letter was from the City of Malta requesting PhillCo release the lease on the MBIDD property within 10 days of receiving the letter. The question was raised if PhillCo could send a letter back to the City without going through attorney. Bob Galt moved that PhillCo send a letter to Hi-Line Law firm requesting that all parties get

together to have conversation. Richard seconded the motion, motion carried. Bob then mentioned that he is making the motion but he is also in favor of Phillips County Motor Sports ending up with the property and he believes the City is off base in this matter. It was the consensus of the attendees that all parties need to work together on the future of the MBIDD property.

Ashley also stated that she talked to Steve Cole and MEC Electrical will be moving out of their building on the MBIDD property. This is the building that is shared with Kit's Flooring. It is a unique situation in which utilities are split. MEC has purchased another property where they will be storing their equipment. MEC moved to a month to month lease several months ago. Steve did mention that there are several pieces of equipment that they won't be able to move until spring. Anne Boothe mentioned that this may be a good time to go in and evaluate the building and make necessary improvements. Ashley stated that possibly next week she will go out and take a look. Marko moved to look at improvements, Logan seconded, motion carried.

- **Store Front Beautification Grant Program** – Ashley reported that in 2018, the beautification committee is going to look at the guidelines. Funds are currently available funds available. Since the program started in 2012, PhillCo has contributed just over \$50,000 to area businesses. The latest business to use the Beautification program was the Liquor Haven/Travel Haven on their new property.
- **Phillips County Community Branding** – Ashley reported the committee is in the final stages of project. There have been several working group meetings and the group is working with Montana Grafix on design finalization
- **Potential Grain/Pulse Facility for Phillips County** – Ashley reported on current status including contact with potential loading/processing site owner and BNSF Railroad. Ashley has sent an email to the newest contact and hopes to hear back from them next week.

- **New Business:**
 - **Election of 2018 Officers**
 - President – Marko Manoukian
 - Vice-President – Logan Lund
 - Secretary/Treasurer - Juli Snedigar
- Bob moved that nominations cease and unanimous ballot be cast. The motion was seconded by Anne, motion carried.
- **2018 PhillCo Operating Proposed Budget** – The proposed 2018 PhillCo operating budget was presented. At the last PhillCo Executive Board meeting, the board made the recommendation that PhillCo approach the Community Fund Board for \$12,000 to cover the expected shortfall in the PhillCo budget. Logan moved to make the request for \$12,000 from the Community Fund. Bruce Christofferson seconded, motion carried.
- **Hi-Line Technology Roundup** – Ashley reported new classes have been scheduled. There will be QuickBooks training in March. There will also be Google Docs training, Gadgets training and Ashley is working with Kelly McCann to come up with more classes.
- **Next Meeting: Thursday, March 29th at Noon at the GN Lodge Room**

- **WHAT'S NEW IN AND AROUND PHILLIPS COUNTY:**
- **Duane Murray, HLRC Administrator** – Duane Murray gave an update on the Hi Line Retirement Center. They are currently 15 months in with the new administration. Duane stated there are always challenges but they have come a long ways in this time. He stated that the older part of the building is showing its age, but they are working very hard to pay down debts. Duane also stated that they are blessed with a great staff, board and community support. One thing that they have been trying to get going is a daycare for the staff. They are looking forward to a great 2018.

- **Meeting adjourned** – Marko moved to adjourn, Logan seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.