

Arlee Community Development Corporation
Board Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2009

LOCATION: The Hangin' Art Gallery & Coffee House, Hwy 93, Arlee, MT

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Donna Mollica, Frank White, Paul Mollica, Judy Fundingsland, Ron Snyder, Lisa Samsel, Philippa Crawford, Shaun Kendall, Deb Starratt

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Carol-Lynne Toleno, Amy Thomas

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dale Duff, Jack Duff, Helene Bourdon, Sister Joan Bartin, Dee Dawse, Dave Marsolek, Kim Folden, Clint Folden, Dori Knoll, Cherie and Jerry Garcelon, Scot Crawford

GUESTS PRESENT: Jeremy Lutes, Erin from The Leader, Nick Crawford, Melea Burke of the Valley Journal, Andrea Eaton, Patti Johnson, Amanda Adams, ? Adams.

Introductions were made.

A quorum was established.

Donna made an announcement about board member Josy Mann dying, when her funeral and benefit were and spoke in recognition of all Josy did in this community.

Frank made the motion to approve the February minutes as emailed. Judy 2nd it. Motion carried. Shaun abstained from voting as he was not present at the February meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Donna gave an update on the Big Sky Economic Development Trust Fund Grant. There was a change in that Lake County Community Development Corporation will be the applicant for the grant. The Missoula Area Economic Development Corporation will write a strong letter of support for the application.

We have \$7500 of the \$10,000 matching funds. Ron Snyder and The Gravely Mountain Boys helped raised \$1497 by turning their performance at The Hangin' Art Gallery into a fund raiser. Thank you Ron and Gravely Mountain Boys and to everyone who donated. The CDC greatly appreciates your support. There are still requests out for donations to

cover the remaining \$2500 for the match. Donna believes more donations are coming in to defray the remaining \$2500 coming out of the operating budget.

The overall goal of the grant is to perform the research for creating the Jocko Valley as an arts and culture destination. Planning will cover three focus areas: creating an indigenous summer theater at the Pow Wow grounds, expanding on existing festivals/gathers and creating additional programs throughout the year, and revitalizing the downtown area to create a strong sense of place and to make the town aesthetically pleasing. The CDC has strong letters of support for the grant from the Lake County Commissioners, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes, Salish Kootenai College, Heart View Center, local retail businesses, bed & breakfasts and festival committees.

The annual meeting is set for May. Donna asked if Jack and Frank would help to plan for governance capacity. They will along with anyone else who wants to help.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Paul suggested that instead of the CDC making a one time donation for Josy that a scholarship fund be set up. Patti Johnson suggested that it be ongoing. People like this idea and Deb Starratt and Dori Knoll are going to work on a proposal to present to the Board at its April meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Carol-Lynne Absent

TREASURER'S REPORT

Both Shaun and Donna spoke about finances. Donna said we have been invited by the Edward's Foundation to apply again for their July/August grant cycle to renew the grant for the after school art program. Shaun said that our operating expenses, which are low, are solid into the early fall. Upon completion of the After School Art Program for the school year, monthly expenses will be about \$1500.00 which includes Kelley's salary, the Imagination Library, utilities, etc. Donna said that some administrative support is being written into the Big Sky grant. Also, we will be applying again in August to High Stakes Ventures to help bridge administrative capacity until larger, multiple year capacity grants can be written. Donna said one of the goals of the Big Sky Grant will be a strategic plan that will allow the CDC to apply for these larger grants.

Donna made a motion for the CDC to commit \$5000.00 towards matching funds for the Big Sky Economic Trust Fund Grant. Paul 2nd the motion and all were in favor.

Committee Reports

AFTER SCHOOL ART PROGRAM & YOUTH PROGRAMS: Guest artists are filling Judy Martin's spot through completion of the program in April: Antoine Sandoval, Clarence Hunter, and Jim Newberg to name a few. Scot Crawford and Joyce Auer continue to assist and Darcy Koeman is volunteering to assist with several of the

remaining sessions. Their help is great appreciated. Philippa said she can always use volunteers, whether it is to bring snacks or just to give the children more one on one attention. There was discussion on the need for healthy snacks. Deb said she will bring hard boiled eggs. Patti and Rick have donated snacks and will do so again. The program will finish the end of April. Judy Fundingsland suggested utilizing the Food Buying Club to purchase healthy snacks such as trail mix, juices, etc. for next year. Judy is willing to purchase a month worth of snacks.

Walking the children to the Gallery from the school is the task that requires the most attention from adults. Philippa acknowledged Sylvia McDonald who helps to carry over backpacks from school in her car on a regular basis and also provides snacks. All assistance is welcome and the group thanked Philippa, the Crawford family and everyone else who helps with the After School Art Program.

There was a question about summer camps. Donna said she has met with Deb Espinoza and Heart View Center will be running camps again this summer as they have in the past. The Arlee CDC will partner again but we will need to review our finances as we get closer to the summer to determine how much money we can allocate to it. The cost of the Imagination Library has gone up substantially as we get more children enrolled and we have spent over \$800 of our youth program fund to date on the 2008-09 year (\$1000 in cost less \$200 in donations). We still have 4 more months in this program year to cover and are waiting to hear if the Library will donate again this year.

There was discussion about the effect of the 4 day school week and its effect on the after school art program given a longer day for the young children. Philippa has begun to speak with parents about this and do a more extensive survey once we know the exact schedule for next year. Dori Knoll, the Family Resource Coordinator for the Arlee Schools said the school is looking at two different dismissal times. One for junior and senior high and one for elementary. The schedule has not been finalized but should be within the next few weeks. Dori offered her assistance in any way we feel would be helpful.

Donna suggested that a focus group be formed to sit down with volunteer programs and see what kind of help they need and write a grant for helping those programs so volunteers are not needing to do so much day to day fund raising in addition to running these valuable program. She and Josy had talked about the possibility of also involving the students themselves in program planning. Donna needs to know the schedule for the Art Program by July in order to apply for a renewal of the Edwards Grant. Dori will work with Philippa on this.

NEW BUSINESS

Scot Crawford asked the CDC to help sponsor teams again this year for baseball. He hated asking for more, but was asking for \$200.00 per team. Last year was \$150. The \$200.00 also helps with the cost of providing additional expenses like porta potties, paying an umpire and other incidentals. Donna made a motion to sponsor two teams at

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\$200 each for a total of \$400.00. Judy 2nd the motion and it passed unanimously. all were in favor. It was agreed upon to make the donation in Josy's memory as she did so much to help the baseball league and to make the sponsorship of two teams an annual commitment for the Arlee CDC.

There was additional conversation about the names of sponsors being on the team shirts, and the additional 5 sponsorships that need to be identified for the league. Several Arlee businesses have been approached and will probably sponsor again.

There was discussion about the Arlee CDC establishing some type of scholarship fund Josy's name and different ways to do this, including having this fund be used for education and special opportunities for Rainy. Deb Starratt, Dori Knoll and Patti Johnson agreed to put together a plan to propose to the Board at its April meeting. This fund would be in addition to the Indian Taco Benefit on March 29th and the account at the bank to help with day to day expenses. This scholarship fund will require separate fund raising.

Jeremy Lutes is a fine artist who grew up in Missoula and now lives in California. He has been in Arlee caring for his father, Phil Lutes, who recently passed away. Jeremy spoke about his feeling that the Jocko Valley has its own charm and powerful, beautiful geography that can be built upon as we move forward with our plans to have it be an arts and culture destination. He feels there is a lot of potential and spoke about the growth of an art festival he has worked on in California that has grown from a small gathering to a very large annual event. He offered to help our community however he can from California.

Buttercup Run: Cherie Garcelon needs volunteers to help out. Friday, March 27th at 2:30 you can help by folding t-shirts in the elementary school cafeteria or you can help out on the 28th by showing up between 9-9:30am in front of the high school. Volunteers get a free t-shirt.

The Buttercup Run is put on by Friends of Arlee and helps raise money for scholarships. They try to give scholarships to every student that applies. Friends of Arlee also help teachers with supplies.

This meeting was adjourned at 11:10am.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2009 at 10:00 am at The Hangin' Art Gallery.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kelley Brown
Administrative Assistant