

Arlee Community Development Corporation
Board Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2008

LOCATION: Arlee Alliance Church, McMurtrie Road, Arlee, MT

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Donna Mollica, Carol-Lynne Toleno, Frank White, Ron Snyder, Josy Mann, Shaun Kendall, Paul Mollica, Amy Thomas

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Judy Fundingsland, Debra Little-Starratt, Lisa Samsel, Philippa Crawford

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dale Duff, Jack Duff, Jo Crawford, Kim Folden, Amy Burland, Denny Nault

GUESTS PRESENT: Melea Burke of the Valley Journal, Andy Fisher, Karen Fisher, Sally Cordier, Loretta Willoughby, Becky Malatara

A quorum was established.

Donna reviewed voting rules: Only Board Members vote at monthly Board meetings; all general members vote at the Annual Meeting; all are welcome to be part of discussions.

Donna made a motion to approve the revised October minutes Kelley sent out. Paul 2nd it and all were in favor. Since there was no quorum at the October meeting Donna made a motion to approve the September minutes. Paul 2nd it and all were in favor.

Officers Reports

President: Donna talked about needing community wide planning and proposed we use January and February to get community involvement in asset based planning. How do we build on who and what we have now in our community and how do we proceed to increase our social and economic vitality? We need a sense of the whole community in terms of the next steps in economic development and how to make what we have better. Donna has ideas on where to get some grant money to do this and wanted to know if everyone was okay with her trying to get funding to do this. There were no objections.

Donna said she has requested a grant application for Newman's Own Foundation for the youth program.

The Rodeo Committee feels the need to get covered stands for the Rodeo Grounds. Donna is going to research the Montana Dept of Commerce grants to see if there are still dollars for event infrastructure grants. If so, she will work with R.T. Hendrickson, Jennifer Schall and Shannon West to put together a grant application.

There was consensus that we should go forward with another Chocolate Lover's Festival in February. Donna suggested that she and Kelley would provide the administrative support so there will be enough coordination of the volunteer efforts.

Donna asked people to think about moving CDC meetings to one Saturday morning a month. Since we hold the meetings at The Alliance Church, Donna asked Shaun what Saturdays would work for the church. He said the 1st and 4th would work. This will be voted upon at the next meeting.

Donna will call a meeting of the Executive Committee to prepare an evaluation process for Kelley's one year anniversary coming up in January.

At Roxane Rinard's request, Kelley reported on statistics for www.arleemontana.org website. From 9/23 – 10/23 there were 1,157 visits, 368 of which were new. 3029 pages have been viewed and there have been visitors from China, The Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, Ireland, Iceland, New Zealand and Italy.

Vice President:

No report

Secretary:

At committee time

Treasurer:

Shaun provided a profit and loss statement for the year and for the month of October. Total income we have received this year so far is \$57,050.07. This is thanks to Donna writing grants. Shaun said that the report is broken out well. He said that while membership dues are minimal, they are important as showing a good member base helps us in attaining grants.

Committee Reports

Jocko Valley Trails: Ron Snyder reported for the committee. He said that Gary Decker brought a computer slide show of the valley. They defined what they wanted to do on a large scale. The Restoration Trail will be completed in a year or two. Long term they are talking of an east-west trail connecting Jocko Canyon to S. Valley Creek and a north-south trail connecting Ravalli to Evaro close to town. The Restoration Trail would connect to these. Ron spoke with Les Evarts of CS &KT Fisheries who is in charge of the restoration foot bridge to cross the river. The Tribes approve of connecting North and South over the river and possibly have a parking lot on either side with interpretive trails. There is money and approval in the CSKT budget to do this. However community support is needed and the CDC can help obtain that support. The committee is putting together a grant request for technical assistance. There was discussion of this committee working closely with the safety issues Amy Burland is coordinating relative to safe paths to school from north of the Jocko River and the new

highway construction through town. The next Jocko Valley Trails Committee meeting is scheduled for December 6th @ 10 am at The Hangin' Art Gallery.

Donna reminded everyone heading up committees to get information to Kelley so that she can keep it on file at the CDC office and so that she can get notifications of meetings out.

Speed Limit Reduction and Safe Routes to School: Amy Burland said that the highway construction has created safety hazards for students walking and biking to school and town. The safe crossing over the Jocko River was removed. Amy said that Kevin Howlett is the state rep for our area concerning this. As discussed at our last meeting, at Kevin's suggestion Amy put together a packet of petitions and letters of support from Nkusum, the Arlee School District, the County School Superintendent and the CDC to present to the CSKT Tribal Council and the County Commissioners. Kevin felt the documentation was substantial and Amy has received approval from both the Tribal Council and the Commissioners to request a safety study from the State. Kevin said it would be good to have a representative from Arlee at the December meeting in Helena.

Denny Nault has safety concerns for both car traffic and foot/bicycle traffic from N. Couture loop in the new road construction through town. He suggested drafting a letter regarding the new construction going on in this area to see if we can get safe routes both walking and driving incorporated with the construction. Amy will ask Kevin Howlett how to proceed and bring all of it to the table at one time.

Denny mentioned that Pablo has three stop lights and it is not an incorporated town. He feels that at least one traffic light is necessary for safety and controlling speeds through Arlee.

Food Buyers Club:

November 28th is the next due date for orders with delivery on December 5th. Donna reminded everyone to please print legibly and have the correct numbers written down as well as brand name and product description.

After School Art Program:

Philippa was unable to attend and asked Kelley to let everyone know that the art program is a full capacity. With so many children attending volunteers are really needed to give children individual attention. The program runs Tuesdays from 3:30 – 5:00 for kindergarten through 2nd grade. Wednesdays runs the same time with two groups; 1) 3rd – 5th grade, 2) 6th – middle school. Also needed are snacks for the children. Anyone willing to volunteer time and/or snacks should let Kelley know so you can be put into the schedule.

Artist Cooperative:

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 18 @ 2:30pm at The Hangin' Art Gallery. The meeting will be facilitated with Jan Tusick of LCCDC. All artists are

welcome to attend. Loretta Willoughby and Karen Fisher wanted to know if there were artists interested in teaching adult education classes. They had attended such a class in St. Ignatius. Donna said that there are definitely artists interested in teaching classes.

Beautification: Carol-Lynne spoke with Shane Stack from MDOT regarding highway landscaping as some concerns have been raised about the landscaping portion of the highway contract. She said that the landscape contractor is scheduled to begin planting in September and is suppose to follow up with watering for one year.

There are a number of issues that are going to require coordination and follow up on behalf of our community. Carol-Lynne asked for board permission to speak with MDOT on behalf of the Arlee CDC. Donna made a motion to allow this and Shaun 2nd it. All were in favor.

Holiday Decorating: Kelley said that \$275.00 have been donated from businesses so far. Carol-Lynne will pick up new lights and has bows to put on. The event is scheduled for November 29th 9:00am at The Hangin' Art Gallery with Anne Stewart providing music for a Christmas sing along. Frank White has stands made for the trees. Kelley will get the list of businesses who have donated to Carol-Lynne so that she will know where to place trees. Donna said that since we have new businesses participating next year we need to plan with Joyce Auer to see if the High School students will create banners for new businesses. Kim asked not to have lights put on the library Christmas tree as there is no place to plug them in and they end up being taken off.

New Year's Eve Party: We will have our second annual alcohol free New Year's Eve Party this year at the Hangin Art Gallery. Decorating will begin in the morning of December 31st and volunteers are needed. Carol Lynne also needs empty egg shells so that she can put confetti in them like last year. She needs help with designing a poster.

Recycling etc:

Kim spoke with school superintendent, John Miller about the school getting involved with holiday decorating and town clean up. He is all for it. This came about as a result of Kim finding graffiti on the recycle bin and wanting kids to have pride in their community. Kim wanted the CDC's permission to invite kids to come decorate. The Elementary kids will need a parent or guardian with them. The Board gave Kim permission to put an announcement in the school announcements.

Kim spoke with the school deputy about the graffiti and he said to report it to Lake County Dispatch as it may be gang related. Kim has reported it. She spoke with Allied Waste and they told her that they have not had graffiti on their bins in 7 years. Kim has

some paint and will paint over it.

New Business

Food Pantry: The Jocko Valley Food Pantry is an all volunteer pantry without government assistance. It was started by the Arlee churches and is staffed by volunteers from the churches and the community. All the food is obtained from private donations, food drives and small grants that have been received from the Catholic and Lutheran churches. The Pantry is housed in the Lutheran Church. It used to serve 15 – 20 families a month and is now serving that many a week. Jo Crawford has been volunteer director of the food pantry for 10 years and is ready to retire from that position and will do so the end of this year. Donna proposed that the CDC provide the administrative support to schedule and remind volunteers, with the existing Volunteers continuing to make policy decisions and staff the pantry. Donna has discussed this with Kelley and they feel it is viable. Donna made a motion to provide admin support and seek a grant from Lower Flathead Valley CDC. Amy Thomas 2nd the motion. All were in favor.

Arlee Youth Basketball: Becky Malatare made a presentation about Arlee Youth Basketball, an all-Arlee youth league started and run by volunteers. It serves approximately 75 Arlee children. The league expenses are partially covered by a modest entrance fee, concession sales and Tribal support. However expenses continue to rise and she came to the meeting asking if the CDC could provide some financial support for items such as uniforms and equipment. Donna made a motion to give the Arlee Youth Basketball program \$300.00. Amy Thomas 2nd the motion and all were in favor. We thanked Becky Malatare and board member Josy Mann for all their volunteerism on behalf of children in our community.

It was suggested that perhaps the children in the league could do some community service in return such as participating in town cleanup.

Christmas Parade of Lights: Sally Cordier presented this idea. She has seen it in other communities and thought it would help young people feel more involved in the community. Donna asked for volunteers to help plan this and suggested they do it in conjunction with Anne Stewart who will have a Christmas Carole sing along at The Hangin' Art Gallery on December 12th. Josy, Donna, Kim, Carol-Lynne and Sally agreed to meet to organize this. Kelley will invite Anne Stewart.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. Our next CDC meeting will be held in January. For date and time, give me a call at 726-5550. Happy Holidays.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kelley Brown
Administrative Assistant