

**GREATER WHITTIER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
OCT. 18, 2011 @ LONESTAR STEAKHOUSE**

**ATTENDING:** Rebecca Langton, FCS; Dave Goldstein, PWS Eco-Charters; Jack Roskind, Knot Roughin' It Charters; Mike and Kelly Bender, Lazy Otter; Pete and Marilynn Heddell, Capt. Cook Books; Sue Cogswell, PWS Economic Dev.; Kristen Labrecque, Saltwater Excursions; Jeffrey Ford; Tim Melican, Magic Bus; Bill Rome, Willard Is. Video; Dempsey Thieman, PND Engineers Inc.; Kelley Barker, Milepost/Ak. Mag.; Ethan Tyler, 26 Glacier/AWCC; Matthew Cline, Aquetec LLC; Sandy Bartles, FCS.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order by Jack at 12:05 pm.

**PRESIDENTS REPORT:** The Catch Sharing Plan was put on hold. NOAA received over 4000 comments on the proposals. There will still be 2 halibut for now but it is still in litigation.

Businesses are closed around Whittier except FCS, Lazy Otter, The Inn and Aquetec. Jack hopes that everyone had a prosperous summer.

\* A correction to Sept. minutes by Dave - you do not apply for mayorship, you are voted in to the city council.

September minutes accepted by Dave, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandy.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Report needs to be updated.

**CITY REPORT:** No one to report for the city but Dave said there is enough for a quorum.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Membership** - Kelly - We are still missing a couple large accounts. We've only had 2 people decline membership. Ak. Sealife Center and a couple of other new businesses have signed up for the 2012 map. The tunnel will be putting the schedule again.. We will probably scale back to 75,000 from the previous 100,000. Prince William Sound Glacier Cruises will be pulling out of Whittier so we have lost their full page add.

- Thanks to Bill for new pictures for the map.

- Jack talked with FSA and Di Tomasos about memberships.

- Kelly - there will be more cross listing areas available on the website but space is limited on the map.

**Sportsman Shows** - Mat-Su booth is paid for. Janet has the application for the Sully show. Jack checked with Aurora Productions to see if we can put a clickable link on their website to link to the chamber site.

- Kelly - we need to have a committee to set better rules and regulations for the shows. That committee will be Jack, Kristen, Ethan, Tim and Rebecca. Any suggestions can be directed to anyone on the committee by 11/7/11 with committee meeting to follow on 11/10.

**Walk To Whittier** - No new news.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July** - No new news.

**Derby** - Kristen wrapped up 2011 and is looking for volunteers to help for next season. Thinking of doing target weight like in past years instead of biggest fish. Homer may be doing the same. Salmon will stay the same. We really need to promote Small Fry Derby, any ideas are welcome.

- Dave - suggested do a length measure instead of weight so fishermen do not have to take their fish anywhere to be weighed.
- Kristen - All tickets have been accounted for and is getting info on other printers.
- Signage for derbies in store fronts.
- Would captains be interested in including tickets in the charter prices?
- Can ramp or Shoreside allow sign for advertisement?

Ethan closed Old Business, Mike 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **NEWBUSINESS**

- Ethan - Brought Seward Highway situations/projects to the Chamber that we have been hearing about on the news. There are 2 big projects for the 2012/13 season; one extending from Bird to Turnagain Pass and the area of Portage Visitors Center to the turn out to Whittier. Even though the general public comment period has ended, letters from the Chamber in support of the projects would be helpful.

- Jack - This is the project that will include our signage to Whittier.

- Ethan, Dave and Tim - described the area for the Portage Vist. Cntr. Project for merge lanes, turn lanes and moving the entrance to the Wildlife Center.

- Dave made motion for Chamber " Support any and all projects addressing safety, access and information in regards to the Seward Highway; specifically better access to the AWCC, Portage Rd. turnoff and increased signage for access to Whittier". All accepted and agreed. Ethan will draw up a letter and go with Jack to present it to Scott Thomas at D.O.T.

- Ethan - Funding was cut that ran through A.T.I.A. and is now running through the Dept. Of Commerce and Economic Development but may change again in the future.

- Kelley - Would the Chamber be interested in trading space for space in the Milepost to Map. Milepost is still accepting ads. They are updating the look of the Alaska Magazine. Get dates to here A.S.A.P. so that she can submit them for printing in her calendars.

- Jack - web designer is away on family emergency so any changes will take a couple of weeks.

- Sue - Hells Motels, a reality show, is looking for any hotels, motels or B & Bs that may need a facelift.

- Phillips is adding a small catamaran for a 4 hour Blackstone tour for the 2012 season.

**Next meeting will be November 15<sup>th</sup> at noon at the Lone Star Restaurant**

