



**BURMA Meeting Minutes
July 2, 2009**

The meeting was held at Faith Lodge B&B and called to order by the president Sharyn Coker.

9 Attending: Sharyn Coker – Whimsical Treasures
Emma Lue Marsh – The Sign Guy LC
Angela Errett – Angelic Designs
Paul & Anne Sterneman – Faith Lodge B&B
Jerry Henderson – A Governor’s Inn
Kay Sienkiewicz – Momselle Maternity/Nana Kay’s
Gene Starr - WVCEE
Debbie Huber – Wendy’s

Introductions

Call to Order:

Blessing was given by Paul Sterneman.

The minutes from June 4, 2009 meeting were e-mailed for review. Motion made by Jerry to approve minutes as reviewed. Motion seconded by Emma Lue. Motion approved.

Current Balance is	\$3,016.45
<i>Progressive Bank</i>	\$2,966.96
<i>Petty Cash</i>	\$49.49

Bills Paid	
CJ Maggies	\$50.00
Suddenlink	\$72.00

Treasurers report stands approved as presented.

Old Business:

Bridal Show Survey:

- Thanks to the BU Chamber for sending the survey out to the membership
- Only six surveys returned: Approximately 200 surveys emailed between BURMA membership & email list and Chamber; a 3% response
- Three Retail; two non-retail; one non-retail/catering
- Five interested in being a vendor; one considering
- Three interested in volunteering
- Four said they would benefit from the event; Two said no
- Three chose Sunday; three chose Saturday
- Four chose 12-5pm; two chose 10-3pm

- Newspaper, TV and email
- Comments:
 - Complimentary drinks/snacks for vendors
 - Make easy to attend – Book brides
 - Visit out of town bridal shows – bring in options from out of town if not available locally
- Five would help promote event in-house
- Ideal Bridal Show Comments:
 - Variety of vendors
 - Lots of advertising
 - Good location – not a bar
 - BURMA has done a good job in the past
 - Confirm with WVWC/SIFE they are not doing one
 - The 2008 Bridal Fashion Show was great – good vendors
 - Book experienced bridal consultants
- Jerry would like to see BURMA do the Bridal Fair and will chair the event
- Locations to consider for event: High School, Middle School, Moose Lodge
- Would like to see 30-40 vendors as in past years
- More volunteers needed to produce a good turnout
- Approach Dinah Campi to see if she would coordinate the Bridal Fashion Show
- Approach Lori Meadows and Tia Harper about being volunteers. Tia has attended shows recently and has knowledge about what other shows are doing.

Motion made by Jerry for BURMA to sponsor the 2009 Bridal Show in October. Motion seconded by Gene. Call for the vote with one opposed – Kay Sienkiewicz because there needs to be more volunteers to put on a good show. Motion approved.

*****Winner of the \$25.00 gift certificate was Faith Lodge B&B****

BUCC Fact Book

- Angela reports the money is available but we should consider other options and remain fiscally conservative until other projects are complete
- Open discussion
 - Printing of the book is poor quality
 - Funds could be spent elsewhere with better results
 - Books could be a good PR piece if used but many are not
 - Businesses in Up. Co. need advertising/promotion and we could use the money toward our advertising campaigns
 - Use press releases to get information out

Motion to resend past motion made at the June meeting to approve the BUCC fact book ad and use the money toward our own advertising campaign made by Angela. Motion seconded by Emma Lue. Motion approved.

Under New Business

WVSF 4th of July Event:

- Sharyn spoke with Dee Tomblyn and she is asking for volunteers to help with setup at the High School football field at 12 noon on Friday, July 3
- Angela spoke with Dee and they are also requesting a monetary donation in any amount. BURMA gave \$100.00 to the chamber in 2008
- Knowing our current financial we should reduce the amount to \$50 or \$25
- BURMA is pleased that the Strawberry Festival was able to take over and continue the fireworks for the community

Motion made by Jerry: BURMA will support the efforts of the WV Strawberry Festival on its continuation of the 4th of July event with a monetary donation of \$50.00. Motion seconded by Kay. Motion approved.

Armory Utilization Correspondence:

- Sharyn passed out the letter sent on behalf of BURMA that was approved by the Ex. Board
- The project was discussed at the June meeting and members were asked to give input
- Discussion on the impact on the local businesses in the county, downtown and the general economy
- Open discussion
 - CJ Maggies asked to be removed from BURMA membership based on us not participating in the meetings. His money will be refunded.
 - Connie Tenney was unhappy with the letter
 - BURMA conducts its business at the regular monthly meetings and does not have side meetings
 - Decision on letter was made at the June meeting and a draft of the letter would be reviewed and approved by the Ex. Board before sending. After the motion was voted on there was no need to send the letter out for further review.
 - The UCDA's letter is very similar to the wording in the BURMA letter
 - Needs assessment would observe what is established, what is needed for the community
 - Debbie Huber voiced concerns for herself and James with the wording of the letter, especially the third paragraph
 - Debbie stated the project was very important to the community and opposed the letter sent by BURMA
 - Questions to the time frame of the project and if it would eventually lead to a bypass
 - Debbie would have preferred the question be sent to the membership before the letter was drafted
 - It was mentioned that other groups conduct business at their meetings and make decisions based on members in attendance without further discussion
 - Wording could clarify that "a majority of our membership"
 - Paul expressed that BURMA would like to see the "homework". In other words, the needs assessment, how the project is to be funded initially and projected, what the time frame is, how this would affect the local business and economy, etc.
 - Very concerned that UCDA distributed our letter and email without clarification and singled out BURMA
 - CJ Rylands forwarded this email out to selected BURMA members and called on them to leave BURMA

- Nothing we could have done would have been 100% accepted
- Debbie would like to be involved in decisions concerning the full membership and feel the BURMA meetings, the group in whole, are diversified with different perspectives

Hospitality TIPS Program:

- Tabled until next meeting

Sidewalk Sales during WV's Largest Yard Sale:

- CVB encourages BURMA members to do sidewalk sales in front of their stores
- To be listed on the yard sale map it is \$10.00 for individuals, \$20.00 for businesses, and \$50.00 for multi family. You can contact CVB at 304-472-4100 x37.

Committee Reports:

Tour Map:

- 3,000 to be printed with 31 business listings and 5 recreational sites
- Brought in \$1,270 - \$1,290. Angela to confirm amount
- Kay would like to freeze money for second printing. Need to check final invoice to determine how much.
- Approx. 500 to go to WVWC at the Bobcat Fair
- Will be distributed outside the county at Stonewall Resort and visitor centers
- Kay suggests doing larger quantity in the future
- Jerry suggests possibly using grants on future tour maps for distribution 50+ plus miles

BURMA Bucks Coupon:

- Sharyn checking on the Square Dancers program to see if we would be able to do the flyer and have it inserted into the middle of the program instead
- Will let Angela know what she finds out

Antique Appraisal Fair:

- Proceeding and checking for additional appraisers
- Will be Aug. 7 & 8 at the Moose

Eye on Business/Merchants Mile and One Half:

- Jerry walked 3 times, Kay each weekend (4) – Approx. 10.5 miles
- Email read from Chief Matt Gregory

From: [matthew gregory](#)

To: [Angela Errett](#) ; [Sharon Coker](#)

Sent: Thursday, July 02, 2009 9:13 AM

Subject: Buckhannon pd activity

Hello to all. Attached to this e-mail is the monthly activity reports for the month of June.

Also, for those walking the Merchant Mile - FYI - large crowds of youth have been congregating at the Jawbone pavilion recently. Some problems that have come to our

attention are cigarette butts being thrown onto the ground. This has caused a small fire on at least 2 different occasions around the mulch.

National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Jawbone park and pavilion with a free concert given by the Davisson Brothers Band. There will be several public safety displays and presentations throughout the evening. Each of you from BURMA are encouraged to attend and even have a display table if you wish. Just contact either me or Jess Jenkins at City Hall for details.

To date, I have only received one report sheet from the Merchant Mile and a half - which concerned a stop sign being down on Meade St. That was promptly passed on to the Street Dept. and was quickly fixed.

The Buckhannon P.D. has recently appointed Mark Stewart to the role of Investigator / Crime Prevention Officer. I anticipate him doing a number of proactive activities with businesses in the near future, including possible attendance / visits to various meetings such as BURMA's meetings.

If you should have any questions regarding any of this, please do not hesitate to contact me either through e-mail or at City Hall -304-472-5723.

Matt Gregory

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- Add non-emergency number and Street Dept. to the assistance list
 - Create a business card size list to hand out

Announcements/Comments

- The Ex. Board met earlier and it is time to review our by-laws. President Sharyn Coker appointed a By-laws Committee to review our current by-laws and make suggestions at the next meeting
 - Angela Errett
 - Paul Sterneman
 - Sharyn Coker

Upcoming Events:

Mountain State Arts & Craft Fair – July 2-4, 2009 – Ripley, WV
4th of July Fireworks – July 3, 2009 – BUHS
Upshur County Fair – July 17-19, 2009 – Rock Cave, WV
WV's Largest Yard Sale – August 6-8, 2009 - Buckhannon

Adjournment:

PLEASE NOTE: The next meeting will be on **Thursday, July 30, 2009** at 12:00 noon due to the WV's Largest Yard Sale. Location will be confirmed with email reminder. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.