

## What is the Future for Chamber?

The quarterly meeting of the Eureka Chamber of Commerce was held at the Information Center on March 21 with a crowd so big that it became standing room only. The people were there to hear what candidates for mayor and city council had to say about filling the open positions. After the presentations and some lively discussion, most of the people left.

The remainder of the group stayed to take up the future of Chamber.

The monthly meetings were changed to quarterly meetings in the hopes that more people would attend fewer meetings. That has not happened.

The purpose of Chamber – to promote local businesses – was one topic that was highlighted. But, looking around the room it became very clear that the handful of people attending Chamber meetings could only do so much. All are busy in other organizations, volunteer activities and their jobs. Doing all the things that should be done by a Chamber of Commerce has become a daunting task for so few people.

If Chamber ceases to exist, will other people or other groups step up to take over the established programs? Areas that were addressed were the Eureka billboards near Herreid and Bowdle, the Daktronics electronic sign, the Christmas Treasure Chest promotion, the community wide rummage sale and vendor show, insurance for activities in the community, and Bonus Bucks.

The meeting adjourned with one more quarterly meeting being set – June 20. Anyone with suggestions on keeping and strengthening Chamber or disbanding the organization is asked to be present to share in the decisions that will be made.

*Wanda Jundt*