



# HCCC

HOTCHKISS COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

promoting business & quality of life

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## **Membership Meeting. January 29, 2020. Addams Room.**

**Roll Call.** Board Members Present: Nathan Sponseller, Tracy Ihnot, Mitch Swanda, Bill Long, Robbie Winne, Kim Shay, and Sue Whittlesey. Community Members Present: Tom Wills, Merchant Herald and Wills Used Book Store. Julia and Mike Widdop, Shamanic Arts Center.

**Call to Order.** President Sponseller called the meeting of the membership and Board to order at 8:01 am.

### **Approval of Minutes.**

Recording Secretary Ihnot emailed the draft of the December minutes to Board members and corrections were made. Whittlesey suggested an additional correction to the minutes. Shay made a motion to accept the minutes as amended and Swanda seconded. All were in favor.

### **Communication Secretary's Report.**

Winne reported that there will be a High Country Shopper *Spotlight* article highlighting HCCC the first week of February. The *Spotlight* is a community publication that comes out the first week of every month with the High Country Shopper.

### **Presentations/Introductions:**

Julia and Mike Widdop, owners of the Shamanic Arts Center in Hotchkiss, gave board members an overview of their business and specifically highlighted the Shamans Camp event that will take place at the Delta County Fairgrounds in August. The event includes ceremonies, workshops, sweat lodges, performances, and more. The Widdops are interested in advertising on the signs coming into town and HCCC's e-newsletter.

### **Presidents Report:**

Sponseller gave an update on the 2020 membership drive. There are currently 61 members and the second mailer went out yesterday. Sponseller reported that the *Focus on Business* is coming out in DCI and that HCCC member thank you ads have come out in the High Country Shopper and the DCI. The DCI printed the wrong version of the ad and will print the correct version in the next issue. The thank you ad will also be in the February issue of the Merchant Herald. Sponseller reported that Hotchkiss will be the first stop for Colorado Grand on Tuesday, September 15, 2020. The fairgrounds reserved for the lunch event. Ride the Rockies will not return in 2020 or 2021. The 'Welcome to Hotchkiss' message board is installed. Long reported on the completion of the installation. The Holiday Lighting Contest Winners are the Town of Hotchkiss for business and John and Billy Marta for residential. The runners up are ACE Gambles for business and Bob Turner for residential. Ihnot suggested that in the future judges be required to provide the homeowners name or address for selected winners.

### **New Business.**

[www.hotchkisschamber.com](http://www.hotchkisschamber.com) 970.872.3226 [chamberinfo@hotchkisschamber.com](mailto:chamberinfo@hotchkisschamber.com) PO Box 158 Hotchkiss, CO 81419

**E-waste Event.** Board members discussed possibilities for the 2020 event and potential partnerships. Whittlesey mentioned that Double J may want to coordinate an e-waste event in Hotchkiss this spring that could replace of HCCC's annual event.

**Website Updates.** Ihnot reported that both websites need to be updated and suggested forming a sub-committee to review and make changes to both sites. Winne, Whittlesey, Sponseller, and Ihnot volunteered to work on the project. Ihnot will coordinate scheduling the first meeting.

### **Committee Reports.**

**Hotchkiss Prosperity Plan update.** Shay reported on the recent meeting and progress that has been made in defining and promoting "light manufacturing" in Hotchkiss. Shay also reported that the committee discussed applying for Brownfield grant to update the Coyote and the town shop to attract potential buyers. Shay also reported that DCED meetings are every other Monday at Orchard Town Hall. At the most recent meeting board members voted on a new name for the organization and began reviewing their by-laws.

**Outreach Committee.** No report.

**Announcements/Non-Agenda Items.** No report.

**Next Membership Meeting.** Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 26 at 8am in the Addams Room.

**Adjournment.** Sponseller left the meeting at 8:50. Meeting was adjourned by Swanda at 9:15am.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Tracy Ihnot, Recording Secretary