

# HCCC

HOTCHKISS COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

promoting business & quality of life

## May 1, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes

*Present: President-Nathan Sponseller, Rhonda Duclo, Recording secretary -Tom Wills, Marsey Moore, and Sue Whittlesey.*

Nathan called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 a.m. He reported that the officers had convened for a meeting on Monday, April 29 and had discussed the ongoing process of obtaining IRS 501 C(6)

The minutes of the April meeting were approved as written and e-mailed to the membership.

Nathan reported that Katherine reported that the Chamber is now up to 85 paid members for 2013, which is well ahead of the schedule and goal for the year. Two mailings have been done.

Nathan reported that Treasurer Elaine Brett had e-mailed the officers the financial report. The account totals were as follows on April 28: **Checking/Savings - 7,833.54, Hotchkiss Chamber Special Projects - 5,840.40 and the Hotchkiss Chamber-Downtown Account - 292.80.**

**Downtown Improvement.** Mary and Tom reported on the Downtown Improvement project. The 6 mine timber planters being assembled at the high school are almost ready for transport. Tom assembled the other three on site. The high school student government worked Monday, April 29 on refurbishing all of the existing smaller planters. The majority of the planters will be planted on Saturday May 4.

Joanne Tullis at the Creamery is starting a planning process to replace the damaged sidewalk in front of the Creamery Park with a decorative surfaced one.

There will be a Downtown Improvement Committee meeting at the Coaltrain Coffeehouse at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, May 14. Among the topics will be art for decorating the planters and other downtown improvements including murals, decorative sidewalks etc.

**Electronic Recycling.** The April 27 electronic recycling event at the Fairgrounds was much more successful than anticipated. Nathan reported that three times as much stuff was turned in than E-Waste estimated we would generate. He roughly estimated that the Chamber's share of the fees will be at least \$1,500, making it a very good fundraiser. All were in agreement that the event should be an annual event.

**Post Cards.** Marsey reported that Lynda Cannon at the Pack Shack was willing to do another batch of Chamber postcards. She suggested that we solicit people to submit photos from Hotchkiss taken during the summer and produce something during the fall. Photos can be e-mailed to the Chamber or the Pack Shack.

**Sheepdog Trials.** The Chamber will once again be doing local advertising for the HSCSDT event on Friday – Sunday May 10-12. Nathan reported that the vacant First State Bank lots have been rented out to vendors as a Chamber fundraiser. Don't miss the First State Bank Cook-out on Friday 11-1.

Sue reported that the Lion's Club will be selling cookies and brownies at the Trials grounds to raise money for the school band instrument program. Once again the Lion's would ask that Chamber members consider membership in the Lions. They currently have 10 members and need to maintain 8 members as minimum to keep the chapter from being disbanded.

Nathan reported that Cira Beegle was the winner of the Colorado Grand \$5,000 scholarship.

**Sidewalks Ordinance.** Tom Wills reported that the Town of Hotchkiss has adopted, and plans to uniformly enforce, a Sidewalks ordinance that allows of the Town and property owners to share 50/50 on the costs of replacing old sidewalks or building new ones. The ordinance which requires all property owners to maintain the sidewalks abutting their property in good condition will be enforced. The ordinance also requires businesses using the abutting sidewalk for commercial use to obtain an annual free permit first and to always leave at least 5 feet the right of way clear to meet ADA requirements. The planters were designed and placed so as to meet this restriction. Most sidewalks in the downtown core (Oak to 3<sup>rd</sup>) are between 8 and 9 feet in width.

A Hotchkiss Sidewalks and Trails Plan which supports the ordinance and identifies areas of need will be considered for adoption at the Hotchkiss Planning Commission's May 22 (6:30 p.m.) meeting at Town Hall. The Plan will then be considered at June meeting of the Town Council. Copies of the plan can be obtained through the Town Clerk's office.

The next regular Chamber membership meeting is set for June 5 at 7:30 a.m. in the basement of the Hotchkiss Library.

*Respectfully submitted, Tom Wills- Recording Secretary*