

HCCC

HOTCHKISS COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

promoting business & quality of life

Regular Board Meeting Minutes Wheeler Room, Memorial Hall 06/29/2016

Roll Call: Board Members: Nathan Sponseller, Katherine Colwell, Robbie Winne, Sue Whittlesey, Carrie Yantzer, Bill Long, Tracy Ihnot. Members: Karen Lacey, Mary Hockenbery, Don Chance. Public: Janice Cooper, Mary George

Call to Order: The Board meeting was called to order by President Sponseller at 8:33am.

Approval of Minutes: Prior to this day's meeting, the minutes of the 05/25/2016 Executive Session had been sent via email to the board by interim Recording Secretary, Sponseller. No changes to the submitted minutes were suggested and no discussion. Whittlesey moved, and Long seconded, approval of minutes as submitted. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent. Approved minutes will be posted on HotchkissChamber.com.

Treasurer's Report: Prior to this day's meeting, the treasurer's report for June 2016, and 2016 year-to-date, was emailed to the board by Treasurer, Whittlesey. No questions were posed. Ihnot moved, and Colwell seconded, approval of the treasurer's report, as submitted. The treasurer's report was approved by unanimous consent.

Communications Secretary's Report: Communications Secretary, Colwell, reported that she is continuing with improvements to the HotchkissChamber.com website, including the member lodging page and the Things to Do section. Ihnot had asked at the last executive meeting if a "quick link" could be added on the homepage that would redirect the requestor to the most recent version of the e-Newsletter. Colwell reported that at this time that is not possible. She also reported the next task for the website is having a photo or logo from all members on the Business Directory, and that the small "thumbnail" photos on the Directory will all consistently enlarge when the visitor clicks to the members' individual pages. Finally, Colwell reported on an obscure information request from the Curicanti Recreation area. Through a number of "small town" connections, the answer was determined. All present appeared to appreciate how such connections make small towns special.

Presentations: Member Mary Hockenbery, and Mary George of the Creative Coalition were present to update the Board and members about the activities of the Creative Coalition. George reminded those present that one purpose of the CC is to act as managers for the State-designated Creative District. The CC is a non-profit entity and they now share office space with the Paonia Chamber of Commerce. George mentioned that last year the CC failed to solicit memberships but are in the process of doing so for 2016. They currently have about 50 members. The CC board consists of: Rita Claggett, Dave Mitchell, Shawn Bailey, Jen Sanborn, Becky Walton, Kelli Hepler, Joann Tullis. Some of the activities upcoming which will be coordinated by the CC:

1. Final Friday Art Walks in all three Valley towns.
2. Art & Ag tour on an upcoming Friday night and Saturday in August.
3. Celebrate the Fork returns to the fairgrounds on August 27.
4. CC is participating in Farm to Fiddle by organizing an art show at the Creamery Art Center.
5. CC is participating in the upcoming Downtown Colorado, Inc. meetings in Paonia on August 4-5.

Old Business:

- **Photo Face Cut Out Prop.** Long reported that he had purchased clear coat for the cut out prop and that he had hired Anthony Lambrakos to apply the finish. In addition, Long made arrangements with Ira Houseweart to fabricate a frame and display structure which will mitigate any concerns about harm to others when using the prop. The cost for fabrication will not exceed \$200.
- **E-waste Event.** Sponseller reported that ReclaMetals, the company that provided bins for the “Non-screen” electronic waste at the e-waste event, has still not presented an invoice for the delivery of the bins. Sponseller indicated he had attempted contact the company in this regard on two occasions with no success, and that he will not continue to pursue the bill.

New Business:

- **West Elk By-way Brochure.** Colwell reported that she had attended a meeting of the West Elk Scenic and Historic By-way group and described the brochure that was being updated by the organization, with the help of Kelli Hepler of Delta County Tourism. This is an update for an existing brochure that was needing to be updated and re-printed. Sponseller and others reviewed the existing document and provided substantial corrections and updates for the project. Colwell mentioned that the By-ways group was asking for donations from organizations and municipalities along the by-way in order to help fund the project since the grants that has previously paid the cost were no longer available. Following discussion the Board elected to make a \$100 donation to the brochure re-print. Innot moved/Winne seconded. Motion was approved by unanimous consent.
- **POS Rack Card.** Sponseller reported that he and the committee have not made significant progress on this project at this point.
- **Facilities Resource List.** Sponseller reported that he had not made progress on this project since the last meeting. Whittlesey asked if a committee might be formed. The Board agreed and Whittlesey, Innot, Winne and Sponseller will comprise the committee and arrange a time to meet to discuss the project in greater detail.

Committee Reports:

- **Outreach Committee.** Committee head, Innot, gave a brief review of the June Business After hours hosted by Solar Energy International, Empowered Energy and the Hotchkiss Fire District. Innot noted that there has been a lot of interest from members in hosting such events and that with the Chamber’s current quarterly schedule we may need to re-examine our current practices and determine how regularly to support such events.
- **Downtown Improvement Committee.** Hockenbery reported that the picnic tables in the “Barney/Fair” pocket park had been re-painted by Larry Jakubiak and that the results were a considerable improvement. Weeding had also been undertaken and the park is looking more presentable.

Announcements:

- Colwell announced that she and husband, Joe would be holding a joint exhibit of her artwork and readings from Joe’s recent book of essays and poetry on the evening of June 30th at the Memorial Hall ballroom.
- Colwell announced that an event named, “What’s up on Redland’s Mesa”, a collaborative tour of the arts and agriculture on Redland’s Mesa, would take place on Redland’s Mesa on September 10.
- Hockenbery announced that she is helping prepare for the re-opening of the Creamery Arts Center on July 1 and that she will have an opening at the Church of Art on July 8.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nathan R. Sponseller, President and interim Recording Secretary