

# HCCC

HOTCHKISS COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

promoting business & quality of life

## Regular Meeting Minutes

June 5, 2013

*Present: President-Nathan Sponseller, Vice- President – Bill Long, Treasurer- Elaine Brett, Rhonda Duclo, Recording secretary -Tom Wills, Corresponding Secretary – Katherine Colwell and King Robertson.*

Nathan called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 a.m.

The minutes of the May 1 meeting were approved as written and e-mailed to the membership.

Katherine reported that with addition of JM Plumbing the Chamber is now up to 86 paid members for 2013. It was noted that of the three valley coal mines only Oxbow is a current member. The new logo-banner designed by Katherine is now on the website.

Elaine reported that the account balances were: \$5,038.56 in Special Projects, \$7,412.01 in General Checking and \$290.80 in Downtown Merchants. The last set off a lengthy discussion about whether the third account should be closed since the Downtown Merchants has morphed into the Downtown Improvement Committee. It was finally decided to leave it as it is for the time being.

There was also a separate discussion about whether more funds should be transferred from General to Special Projects to reduce the temptation to spend. It was noted that the Chamber had so far spent about all that has come in this year. A check for the e-waste recycling event for \$1,180 should be received soon.

The Western Slope Conservation Center submitted a letter requesting a donation to help fund an informational sign at the landfill recycling center. After some discussion it was decided to decline the specific request, since it is outside of our mission, but express our support for hosting another e-waste recycling event next spring in cooperation with WSCC. This year's event not only benefitted many of our members but also raised funds for the Chamber. WSCC will also be invited to become a Chamber member.

## Visitors Center

Members are reminded that the Visitor's Center next to the Hotchkiss Inn has space for displaying your brochures.

Bill Long reported that the hands-free phone system has arrived and it and the door counter will be installed at the same time. He suggested that a self-contained touchscreen monitor could be installed to act as a business/lodging directory.

It was suggested the Chamber host a second Business After-Hours at the Visitor's Center in July to highlight the new services available there.

## **Downtown Improvement:**

Elaine reported that the Chamber has spent over \$900 as its share of the downtown improvement project this year. Tom asked for an additional \$300-\$400 to purchase, or have constructed, two picnic tables (or equivalent seating and tables) for the Bernie Fair Alley Park. The Chamber earlier budgeted \$2,000 for Downtown Improvement for the year. The idea is to at least match the Town's cash project contribution of about \$1,300 for 2013. The Chamber volunteers are also donating hundreds of hours of labor over the season.

Tom reported that the eight un-decorated planters will be painted or carved over the summer by various artists or groups.

For 2014, the DTIC plans to construct a gazebo/bulletin board/wind buffer in the Bernie Fair alley along with a decorative sidewalk and pad. The alley sidewalk may be part of a larger project including the replacement of the Creamery Park and Trout Store sections of downtown sidewalks with creatively designed sidewalk surfaces.

Katherine announced that her business, Rivendell Retreat, is now Colwell Cedars Retreat. The business on Redlands Mesa offers art classes, workshops as well as lodging and space for retreats of all kinds.

It was mentioned that a non-member Delta printing business will offer Chamber members a discount. It was agreed that two member businesses that provide printing services should be contacted.

*Respectfully submitted, Tom Wills – Recording Secretary*