

HCCC

HOTCHKISS COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

promoting business & quality of life

Regular Board Meeting ~~ Memorial Hall Wheeler Room - 08/31/2016

Roll Call. Present: Board Members: Nathan Sponseller, Bill Long, Katherine Colwell, Tracy Ihnot, Sue Whittlesey, Robbie Winne. Community members: Kathy Steckel, Kim Shay, Dr. John Marachino, Rhonda Duclo, Mary Hockenbery.

Call to Order. The regular meeting of the Board was called to order by President Sponseller at 8:35 am.

Approval of Minutes.

Minutes for the July 27, 2016 Board Meeting were emailed to the board prior to the meeting by President and Interim Recording Secretary, Sponseller, and were reviewed. Colwell passed around corrected version of minutes, Whittlesey made a motion to approve minutes as corrected, Ihnot seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report.

Whittlesey had emailed the Treasurer's report to the Board prior to the meeting for review, and numbers were reviewed. Ihnot moved to accept the report as presented, Long seconded. Motion passed by unanimous consent. Sponseller notified the board that lunch for the joint chamber meeting lunch on July 27 went over budget by approximately \$50 and HCCC paid to cover the overage.

Communication Secretary's Report.

Colwell gave an update on the HCCC website. The lodging page has been reconstructed and an email has been sent to all lodging contacts to review for updates or corrections. There have been some IT questions regarding the business directory. In October the website will be tested for compatibility with smart phones. Colwell has forwarded excel spreadsheets to all board members on behalf of the Delta County Tourism Cabinet/Blueprint 2.0 to view and give feedback. The lists contain visitor attractions for each community. Once the information is gathered the lists will be combined.

Presentations/Introductions.

North Fork Ambulance: Executive Director, Kathy Steckel, gave updates on the financial situation and fundraising efforts for NF Ambulance. Steckel also presented changes to 2016 memberships, encouraged people to become members and asked for support from HCCC in the form of a donation as well as getting information out to the community. Colwell asked that Steckel follow up with an email for the weekly email.

Mary Hockenbery gave a brief overview of the Downtown Colorado Inc. workshop that took place in Paonia. Her main takeaway was that brand=personality, and that as a community we need to decide what our personality is. Hockenbery also notified the board that Scenic Byways has asked the Town of Hotchkiss for donations to support an update to their brochure.

Old Business.

Farm to Fiddle. Sponseller gave a brief re-cap of the festival based on feedback from Marsy Moore. There is the intention of forming a 5-6 member board to oversee the festival moving forward. There was a brief discussion about festival success and areas for improvement.

New Business.

Arts and Crafts Business Fair: Rhonda Duclo handed out applications for the 2016 Arts and Crafts Business Fair and asked for feedback on the form. There was also some discussion regarding how to get people into the smaller room during the fair. Steckel suggested that attendees are given a voucher for desert and that the desert table be in the smaller room. Duclo also said that she will need help setting and cleaning up. Steckel said that NF Ambulance is planning a craft fair at the Heritage Hall and wondered if they should try to have it the same weekend. Everyone agreed that it would be a good idea.

Annual Meeting. Sponseller announced that the annual meeting is scheduled for Wed November 9 and that deadlines for nominations for citizen, business and non-profit of the year is Friday, October 21. Colwell suggested Shadescapes as the location for the meeting.

Facilities Resource List. Sponseller reported on the progress of the committee. Whittlesey, Sponseller and Ihnot had their first meeting and drafted the initial list. Sponseller suggested that HCCC hire someone to collect all the necessary information to finalize the list. The Board agreed and discussed a budget. Sponseller suggested a cap of \$1,000. Long made a motion to approve a budget of \$1,000 to hire someone to complete the list. Whittlesey seconded, all were in favor. The Board agreed that the committee could make the decision on who to hire for the job. Ihnot agreed to look into work contracts.

Fairgrounds Stage Project. Sponseller reported that Robbie LeValley is hoping to have something constructed by the spring. Discussed how HCCC might get involved in the project. Considerations discussed were mobile vs permanent, where to park it, and cost. Long volunteered to research cost and draft a quote for a mobile stage that includes a shade awning.

Committee Reports.

Outreach Committee. Ihnot reported that the Town of Hotchkiss has requested more Welcome Bags. Nothing to report for BAH but Ihnot noted that Agape Inn and Weekender Sports are interested.

Downtown Improvement. Hockenbery reported that the cost of flowers for 2016 was 799.77, HCCC pays half. Feedback has been very positive this year about the flowers. Hockenbery also reported that the Town of Hotchkiss may be cutting back on their contribution to flowers in 2017 and she hopes that HCCC will contribute more.

CO Grand. Sponseller and Whittlesey reported on status. Parking is an issue with the auction at Heritage Hall. We may need to rope off an area and we might need volunteers to direct parking. We will need to make signs. Sponseller has communicated with the auction people re: the event and the lunch. Steady Petticoat will play music from 11:45am-1pm. High Wire Ranch and Zack's will provide the beef and buffalo brisket and PJ's Pub will provide vegetarian options and dessert.

Next Meeting. Next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 26 at 8am in the Wheeler Room in Memorial Hall.

Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned by Sponseller at 9:50 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Tracy Ihnot, Rehearsing Recording Secretary