

# HCCC

HOTCHKISS COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

promoting business & quality of life

Regular Meeting. August 7, 2013 – Hotchkiss Public Library Basement

*Present: President-Nathan Sponseller, Vice-president Bill Long, Treasurer- Elaine Brett, Rhonda Duclo, Recording secretary -Tom Wills, Corresponding Secretary – Katherine Colwell, Downtown Improvement Committee Chair -Mary Hockenbery, Joanna Calabrese and Georgia Finnigan.*

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

The minutes of the July 3 meeting were approved as written and e-mailed to the membership.

**Treasurer’s report:** Elaine Brett gave a verbal report which was approved as presented. General fund: \$6,469.14. Special Projects account: \$5,009.09 and Downtown Merchants - \$292.80.

**Corresponding Secretary’s Report:** Katherine Colwell reported that Chamber membership is now up to 92 businesses and non-profits. Additions this month include the Hotchkiss Crawford Historical Society (renewal), Blue Sage Center, Crossroads Senior Living (Delta) and Stewart Homestead Cabin.

Katherine is planning to do a weekly email to the membership.

Work is continuing on cleaning up the Chamber’s on-line business directory so that it contains only current Hotchkiss Chamber members.

**Recycling Presentation:** Joanna Calabrese and Georgia Finnigan of the Western Slope Conservation Center and the Delta County Recycling Committee gave an illustrated presentation regarding recycling in the county and town. A recycling guide to the resources available is on line at [www.theconservationcenter.com](http://www.theconservationcenter.com)

Joanna said she was passionate about recycling and that, “Trash brought me to the valley.” She first visited when passing through with a group on a national walk across the country picking up roadside litter. She returned as a VISTA volunteer at the Conservation Center.

**The Visitor Center Kiosk** (next to Hotchkiss Inn) phone and catalog project was discussed. The hands-free phone is now installed and just needs to be put on line. The counter catalog is in place. So far, despite broad solicitations, only five lodging establishments in the Valley have signed up for the service of being in the physical directory on the counter at the Center and having their number programmed into the phone so that they can be called directly from there. There was agreement that the counter directory and phone system will have plenty of room for other non-B &B/lodging businesses such as wineries, galleries, farmstands, etc., so the word should be put out. If interested contact the Chamber at [chamberinfo@hotchkisschamber.com](mailto:chamberinfo@hotchkisschamber.com), through the website [www.hotchkisschamber.com](http://www.hotchkisschamber.com) or call 872-3226 and leave a message.

**Rolls Royce Tour:** The lunch event for the Roll Royce Silver Ghost car tour stopping in Hotchkiss at the Fairgrounds on Sunday, September 22 was discussed. The tour will provide \$25 per person for lunch and the Chamber would like to turn a profit on the event by serving the meals at a cost in the \$15 per person area. The Chamber would like to serve locally sourced foods. Currently about 25 cars and 50 participants are expected. If you would like to volunteer to help call Nathan at First State Bank at 872-5031.

**Downtown Improvement** chair, Mary Hockenbery, reported that the donated picnic tables for the Barney Fair Park were ready to be picked up and she needed some help achieving that end. Katherine Colwell said that she and her husband would look into it when they were in the Delta area. Thanks Katherine and Joe!

Hockenbery, volunteer crew and business owners are keeping the flowers looking amazing.

Tom Wills reported that the restoration work on the Chamber's welcome sign at 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Highway 92 was nearing completion. Thanks goes out to Teresa Burns for the wonderful flowers and trim-up of the shrubbery at the park there. It all looks very nice as we welcome visitors to the County Fair.

Halloween and Christmas: There was a discussion of possible Halloween and Christmas promotion like a trick or treat at local businesses.

Wills mentioned that Leslie Sparks and Mayor Koontz are discussing a "Zombie Run" for Halloween. That is when runners have balloons or flags on their shirts and "zombies" along the route attempt to feast on them.

*Respectfully submitted, Tom Wills – Recording Secretary.*