

HCCC

HOTCHKISS COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

promoting business & quality of life

Regular Board Meeting

December 14, 2016. Wheeler Room, Memorial Hall

Roll Call. Board Members: Nathan Sponseller, Katherine Colwell, Tracy Ihnot, Sue Whittlesey, Robbie Winne, Lynda Cannon, Bill Long. Community Members: Karen Lacey, Kim Shay

Call to Order. The regular meeting of the Board was called to order by President Sponseller at 8:09am

Approval of Minutes.

Minutes for the November 30, 2016 Executive Board Meeting were not sent out prior to today's meeting for approval. Ihnot will email to board members following the meeting for approval via email.

Treasurer's Report.

Whittlesey had distributed the Treasurer's Report via email to the Board prior to the meeting. Whittlesey reported that she had reserved meeting space in the Wheeler Room of Memorial Hall for our scheduled board meetings in 2017 and has paid in advance for those dates. She also reported issuing a check to Memorial Hall for \$425, as the Hall's share of the proceeds from the recent Arts Crafts and Business Fair. The Chamber and the Board traditionally split the booth space proceeds. There were no questions from the Board or any in attendance and the Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted with a motion made by Long and seconded by Colwell.

Communication Secretary's Report.

Communications Secretary, Colwell, reported that she conferred with a Constant Contact representative and feels up to date on the recent changes to the program. This program is used to produce the weekly Tuesday Information and Links e-newsletter. Colwell mentioned that Constant Contact is willing to send a trainer to Hotchkiss to conduct an "Email Best Practices Workshop". This would be available to all Chamber members without cost and if we host this we would invite members of the other Delta County Chambers. The Board felt this would be a good event to arrange. Colwell mentioned that last year the Chamber had run ads in the local papers in November to thank our membership for their support. She suggested running such an ad again shortly. All agreed.

Presentations/Introductions. No presentations or introductions were made

Old Business.

2017 Regular Board Meetings. February 22, April 26, June 28, August 30, October 25, December 13 all at 8:00 am in the Wheeler Room, Memorial Hall in Hotchkiss.

Lighting Contest. Sponseller reported that the judging will happen tonight. Wendell and Esther Koontz are judging the residential category, Tracy and Finley Ihnot are judging the business category. Colwell and Sponseller requested that photos of the lights to be sent to them.

Membership Mailing. Sponseller reported that the mailer went out last week and about 6 applications have been received back already.

E-Waste. Sponseller reported that the proposed date of April 22 is confirmed with the fairgrounds. Sponseller contacted Recla Metals and requested 1 large bin instead of 2 smaller bins. There was some discussion regarding appliances. Whittlesey reported that we can send people with appliances to the next free day at the dump. Sponseller will contact the local FFA groups and HHS to recruit teens for the heavy lifting. We will need 6 people and will offer \$50 per person to be paid to the organization. There was brief discussion about what we will charge people, to be determined at a later date.

New Business.

Farm to Fiddle Sponsorship. Colwell made a motion that HCCC make a \$3500 sponsorship to the Farm to Fiddle Festival. Ihnot seconded the motion. There was brief discussion regarding the impact on the budget. It was noted that we will likely not be able to make same level of sponsorship in future years. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Downtown Improvement. Cannon reported on the recent DOLA meeting. She highlighted the development of a strategic plan for improvement of downtown Hotchkiss and marketing of the commercial district; and that Jo Edmundson had stepped forward to head up the partnership. The next meeting will be the first Tuesday in January. It will require a partnership with Town of Hotchkiss, HCCC, and DOLA along with other local businesses and organizations. Fox News interviewed Wendell Koontz and others and took footage of empty storefronts. There was discussion about the importance of HCCC supporting the town through this process, staying involved, etc.

Committee Reports.

Outreach Committee. Ihnot will be presenting at the next joint chamber meeting in Crawford on January 25 with an overview of Delta County Libraries strategic plan and HCCC Welcome Bags.

Farm to Fiddle Report. Winnie's Navajo Taco night fundraiser will be at the Elks Club, February 3.

Announcements/Non-Agenda Items.

New Member. Colwell reported that the Ultramat has new owner and that they called to become a member their first day of business.

Blueprint 2.0 Tourism. Next meeting will be on Thursday, Dec 15 at 2:30. Colwell, Sponseller, and Ihnot will be there.

Next Meeting. Next Regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 22 at 8am in The Wheeler Room.

Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned by Sponseller at 10:07 am

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Tracy Ihnot, Recording Secretary