

HCCC

HOTCHKISS COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

promoting business & quality of life

Membership Meeting. June 26, 2019. Wheeler Room.

Roll Call. Board Members Present: Nathan Sponseller, Tracy Ihnot, Sue Whittlesey, Mitch Swanda, and Robbie Winne. Absent: Bill Long. Community Members Present: Shawn Gardner, Director of the Engage Center. Tom Wills, owner of the Merchant Herald and Wills Used Book Store. Amina Uman, representative from the 2020 Census Bureau.

Call to Order. President Sponseller called the meeting of the membership and Board to order at 8:01 am.

Approval of Minutes.

Recording Secretary Ihnot emailed the draft of the May minutes to Board members. Corrections were sent via email. Whittlesey made the motion to accept the minutes as amended and Winne seconded. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report.

Whittlesey emailed the Treasurer's report prior to the meeting for Board Members to review. As of report date, there is \$909.06 in the operating account and \$15,158.71 in the Special Projects account. Whittlesey's report included a detailed accounting of HCCC's RtR breakfast fundraiser. The account balance in the operating account reflects payment of most Ride the Rockies expenses, but not receipt of our reimbursements from Ride the Rockies. Ihnot made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Winne seconded. All were in favor.

Communication Secretary's Report.

Winne thanked the Board for helping catch up on the incoming emails and voice messages and gave a brief report on the e-newsletter. Board members discussed a rotating schedule for checking email and voice messages later in the meeting.

Presentations/Introductions:

Shawn Gardner, Director of the Engage Center in Delta, gave an overview of the program's mission and goals, which include fostering economic activity and entrepreneurship. Kim Shay, owner of Gambles, recently approached Gardner about how Gardner and the Engage Center could assist in Hotchkiss. In response, Gardner is working on a proposal with various partners to outline a process that could ultimately bring start-up businesses to the downtown area of Hotchkiss. Gardner will bring updates to the board, including the proposal, as they become available. Gardner also asked board members about the chamber's ability to provide business and leadership training and support to its members. Sponseller responded by explaining the structure of the HCCC board and the challenges of having no paid staff in implementing new programs. Board members discussed seeing the value in offering these kinds of opportunities and the importance of finding willing partners to share the workload.

Amina Uman of the US Census gave an overview of the process and goals for the 2020 Census. She highlighted the importance of getting an accurate count for Delta County. The federal government distributes large amounts of funding based on the data collected during the Census. Uman requested that HCCC assist with community outreach and providing information to its members. Board members provided Uman contact information for future updates and requests.

Old Business.

RTR debriefing. Sponseller submitted a detailed invoice to Ride the Rockies for the reimbursement of various HCCC expenses for the event. RtR is sending a check. The final report on the beer garden proceeds is not available yet but HCCC is expecting 20% of the total sales. RtR staff indicated that Hotchkiss beer sales were higher than any other stop on the route. Board members have received very positive feedback from RtR staff and riders about the Hotchkiss stop. Swanda commented that many people asked about transportation to Paonia and that HCCC may want to consider this in future years. Sponseller reported that he has been keeping notes on what worked well and what could be improved for future RtR events.

New Business.

July meeting on 24th rather than 31st. Ihnot will be out of town the 24th and Sponseller will be out of town the 31st. Whittlesey made a motion to cancel the July HCCC membership meeting. Swanda seconded and all were in favor. Announcements will be made in the e-newsletter and on Facebook.

Big Economic Sit Down Meeting-July 26 w/ Region 10, County, DCED, chambers and others. There are two countywide meetings scheduled that HCCC should have a presence at. Ihnot will attend the July 3 meeting with Region 10 and Swanda and/or Whittlesey will attend the July 26 meeting with the county.

Business Directory Discussion. Ihnot gave an update on progress updating the 2019 HCCC Business Directory. All new 2019 members have been added to the directory and non-renewing 2018 members have been deleted. Renewing member applications have been reviewed.

New Neighbor Welcome Bag Discussion. Ihnot gave an update on progress contacting members regarding items for the bags.

Distribution of phone and email duties. Whittlesey volunteered to continue checking HCCC's email account. Sponseller will begin checking phone messages as of today. Swanda will take over when Sponseller goes on vacation at the end of the month.

Welcome to Hotchkiss Sign. Board members will discuss this at the next meeting.

Websites. Board members will discuss this at the next meeting.

Committee Reports.

Winne reported that she is moving forward with Avera Capitol's request to host a Business After Hours event on July 25 that will include a free shred for attendees. Winne will follow up to confirm details. Sponseller reported that Lynda Cannon of Mountain Valley Realty also requested a BAH event because her office location is changing. Sponseller will follow up regarding membership status and possibilities for an event.

Announcements/Non-Agenda Items.

Board members discussed the status of the facilities list that was compiled several years ago. The list needs to be updated, but could be published on the website with minor adjustments as a resource for members. Board members will discuss this in more detail at a future meeting.

Next Membership Meeting. Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 28 at 8am in the Wheeler Room.

Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned by Sponseller at 9:55am.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Tracy Ihnot, Recording Secretary