

HCCC

HOTCHKISS COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

promoting business & quality of life

Membership Meeting. September 26, 2018. Wheeler Room.

Roll Call. Board Members Present: Nathan Sponseller, Tracy Ihnot, Katherine Colwell, Sue Whittlesey and Robbie Winne. Board Members Absent: Lynda Cannon, Bill Long. Members: Katie Hedley, Kathy Steckel, Tanya Applegate, and Joe Applegate representing North Fork Ambulance District. Tom Wills, Merchant Herald and Wills Used Bookstore. Mitch Swanda, Bank of Colorado.

Call to Order. President Sponseller called the meeting of the membership and Board to order at 8:02 am.

Approval of Minutes.

Recording Secretary Ihnot emailed the August meeting minutes draft to Board members and Board members sent corrections. Whittlesey made the motion to accept the minutes as amended and Winne seconded. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report.

Whittlesey gave a report on Colorado Grand. The event was very successful this year, bringing in more people and revenue from the lunch. Whittlesey emailed the Treasurer's report prior to the meeting for Board Members to review. As of report date, there is \$744.75 in the operating account and \$17,999.02 in Special Projects account. Whittlesey will transfer \$2850 to the operating account from special projects. Ihnot made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Robbie seconded. All were in favor.

Communication Secretary's Report.

Colwell reported the November 2018 election includes a ballot measure for statewide highway improvements that includes a project for Rogers Mesa. Informational blue books have been mailed out to residents. Colwell will include a reminder for members in the I&L.

Presentations/Introductions:

Kathy Steckel presented on behalf of North Fork Ambulance Association (NFAA). She gave an overview of the service area and services provided by NFAA. Steckel also gave an overview of the rising expenses and growing demand that NFAA is facing. The November 2018 election will include ballot measures to form and fund a special taxing district for NFAA. The ballot questions are 7.e and 7.f. NFAA is sending renewal letters in 2018 but not actively seeking new members. Colwell asked for a pdf of the renewal letter to include in a membership email. Sponseller suggested that the Hotchkiss signboard could be used to bring awareness to the ballot measures.

Old Business.

Downtown Working Group. Sponseller gave a report on progress with the Region 10 REDI grant. Several consulting groups were interviewed for the project. RPI Consulting out of Durango has been selected for the job. The study area is still being determined and a steering committee needs to be formed.

Colwell's Replacement/Future Board and Duties. Board Members discussed the basic duties that need to be taken over by someone immediately in Katherine's absence. The top priorities are responding to phone and email requests. Colwell suggested that a training session with several board members would

be a good start. She will check her calendar and email the board with a few possible dates. Sponseller suggested that the Board consider using some kind of cloud-based document sharing as part of the transition.

New Business.

Colorado Grand-Friday, September 14. Board Members had a brief wrap-up discussion about the event. Sponseller reminded the Board that there is a scholarship available for a Hotchkiss High School senior.

Annual Meeting-Wednesday, November 14. The HCCC Annual Meeting will be held from 5:30pm to 7:00pm at the Hotchkiss Fire Station. Sponseller will approach Pat Medina of Pat's Bar and Grill about providing food for the annual meeting, possibly in exchange for 2019 membership. HCCC is currently looking for nominations for person of year, business of the year, and non-profit of the year.

Graphic Design. Sponseller reported on a meeting with Niki Richardson regarding graphic design for HCCC. Richardson expressed that her preferred approach to working with clients is to have an exclusive relationship in order to create a recognizable brand. Board Members discussed her proposal and agreed that it is important for HCCC to consider each project and contractual relationship on an individual basis. Therefore, agreeing to an exclusive relationship with any business, person, or organization for the completion of any project is not preferable.

Committee Reports.

Outreach Committee. Ihnot gave a report on New Neighbor Welcome Bags. Marlene and Ginger at the Town of Hotchkiss have volunteered to assemble the bags on behalf of HCCC if Ihnot provides the items. They cannot store all of the items permanently, but are willing to assemble the bags in small amounts, on an as needed basis. Board Members discussed that the membership renewal letter can include a check box to express interest in including promotional items in the welcome bags. Ihnot will email a list of the original welcome bag inventory to board members in order to compare it to the current membership and request additional participation.

Mitch Swanda mentioned that Bank of Colorado would love to host a Business After Hours in the near future.

Announcements/Non-Agenda Items.

The annual Holiday Craft Fair is scheduled for November 17, 2018. NFAA is also hosting a craft fair the same day at Heritage Hall. HCCC will handle the advertising for both events.

Whittlesey reported that she will have a first draft of the 2019 budget proposal at the next HCCC meeting. Wills asked for clarification on the open board positions for November 2018. Winne, Cannon, and Colwell's positions are up for renewal. Colwell is definitely stepping down. Winne is willing to continue for another term. Sponseller will follow up with Cannon to confirm if she will run for another term. Ihnot nominated Swanda for one of the open positions and he said he was willing to run.

Sponseller prepared thank you cards for Colorado Grand volunteers for Board Members to sign. Colwell made a motion that HCCC provides a \$25 gift certificate to Zack's BBQ for Les Linman for taking care of the fairgrounds prior to the event. Winne seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Next Membership Meeting. Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 31 at 8am in the Wheeler Room.

Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned by Sponseller at 9:59 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Tracy Ihnot, Recording Secretary