



Membership Meeting. January 27, 2022. Hotchkiss-Crawford Historical Museum.

Roll Call. Board Members Present: Tracy Ihnot, Shelly Ware, Kim Shay, Lenore Cambria, and Nathan Sponseller, Executive Director. Terry O'Brien arrived at 9:00am. Board Members Absent: Bill Long and Robbie Winne. Community Members Present: Thomas Wills.

Call to Order. President Kim Shay called the meeting of the membership and Board to order at 8:38am.

Approval of Minutes.

Executive Director Sponseller brought copies of the draft of the December 16 minutes for board members to review. A small correction was made. Cambria made a motion to accept the corrected minutes and Ware seconded. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report.

O'Brien shared HCCC's current bank statements with the Board via email prior to the meeting. Sponseller provided an explanation of the statements to the Board. Cambria made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Sponseller seconded the motion and all were in favor. After joining the meeting at 9:00am, O'Brien gave an overview of how he would like to approach providing monthly financials to the Board moving forward and asked for feedback. Board Members agreed on receiving monthly statements, a budgetary report with YTD financials in November, and final report at the end of the year.

Executive Director's Report.

Membership Drive. Sponseller gave the Board an update on the 2022 membership drive. He gave an overview of the new process for renewing previous members and reaching new members. Sponseller utilized a list the county provided in order to reach new members via email and received a good response. Many previous members have renewed via email. A paper mailer was recently sent to renewing members that have not responded to the email solicitation.

Colorado Grand 2022. Sponseller reported that the Colorado Grand lunch stop in Hotchkiss is scheduled for Tuesday, September 13 at Delta County Fairgrounds. Board members discussed possibilities for catering the lunch. Sponseller contacted Darnell Place-Wise at the county to confirm the date and request that the park is made ready prior to the event.

President's Report.

Delta County Fair. Shay reported that she is now on the Delta County Fair Board and provided an update on recent changes to the Board. Shay would like to see more affordable options for families, increased attendance, and more participation from local businesses. The tentative dates for the fair are July 29 through August 7.

Presentations/Introductions. None scheduled

Old Business.

Holiday Lighting Contest. Ihnot shared feedback on the lighting contest from the 2021 judging committee for Board consideration. It is the suggestion of the committee that HCCC consider a new approach to the holiday lighting in 2022. In lieu of a contest, HCCC could partner with the schools and downtown businesses to coordinate a holiday light display throughout the downtown area. For example, classrooms could “adopt” a business, HCCC could provide funds to purchase lights and supplies, and students can design and set up lights at downtown businesses. Ihnot will make initial contact with the schools to see if there is interest.

New Business.

Candidate Forum for Municipal Elections. Shay reported that she has contacted the Town of Hotchkiss to schedule a forum moderating by HCCC Board Members. It is expected that there will be six candidates for four open trustee seats and one candidate for mayor. The election is the first Tuesday in April. Board Members set the tentative date of Wednesday, March 2 @ 5:30pm at Town Hall for the forum. Shay will confirm with the town. Board members will draft forum questions for review at the February meeting.

Delta County Fair. See President’s Report.

Website Rebuild. Sponseller gave an overview on how he intends to proceed with updating the Hotchkiss Chamber website. Alowetta at Thin Air Web will assist in directing visitors to hotchkisschamber.com site automatically to the northforkvalley.net site. All relevant Hotchkiss Chamber site information, including the business directory, will transition to the northforkvalley.net site, which receives significantly more visitors.

Colorado Grand. See Executive Director’s Report.

Announcements/Non-Agenda Items.

Cambria reported that there are two seats open on North Fork Recreation District’s Board and nominations are due by February 25 at 5pm.

Next Membership Meeting. Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 24 at 8:30am at the Hotchkiss-Crawford Historical Museum.

Adjournment. Ihnot made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:17pm. Sponseller seconded. All were in favor.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Tracy Ihnot, Recording Secretary