



Membership Meeting – December 16, 2022 – Hotchkiss Museum

Roll Call. Board Members Present: Robbie Winne, Shelly Ware, Kim Shay, Terry O’Brien, Lenore Cambria. Board Members Absent: Tracy Ihnot and Bill Long. Community Members Present: Nathan Sponseller, Executive Director, and Sue Whittlesey.

Call to Order. President, Kim Shay called the meeting of the membership and Board to order at 8:40 am.

Approval of Minutes.

Recording Secretary, Tracy Ihnot, emailed the draft of the minutes of the November 11th Annual Meeting to board members for review. No changes were offered from the floor. Winne moved to accept the minutes as submitted and Ware seconded, all were in favor.

Treasurer’s Report.

New Treasurer, Terry O’Brien, presented a snapshot of the Chamber’s financial condition. Former Treasurer, Whittlesey, has worked with O’Brien to transition the duties of the position. Cambria moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report as submitted and Winne seconded, all were in favor.

Administrative Report.

Membership update. Sponseller reported that the membership drive for 2022 would reverse the order of operation from past years. Whereas, in past years two mailings would be undertaken before following up with businesses that did not reply to the mailed solicitation. For 2022 the Chamber would do a mass emailing to all members of its mailing list as well as to a County list of businesses, provided by One Delta. The first email was sent out on December 7. At time of the meeting, memberships were just starting to come in. Colorado Grand Update. Sponseller reported that Eddie O’Brien from the Colorado Grand had contacted him to announce a lunch stop in Hotchkiss in September 2022. No date or details were known at the time of the meeting. Sponseller will stay in touch with the Colorado Grand and report back to the Board.

President’s Report:

Future Christmas. President Shay noted that it would be nice to consider expanding the celebration and promotion of the Holidays in Hotchkiss next year. Several ideas were floated and it was suggested that the Board revisit with plenty of time to implement any decided on enhancements.

Presentations/Introductions:

None Scheduled

Old Business

Craft Fair Review: Sponseller and Shay reported on the results of the November Craft Fair. Vendors were happy, though there were only 14 instead of the normal 30. Foot traffic was about normal. Sponseller noted that we just did not get an early enough start to pull it off to its potential – especially with taking the event planning on for the first time post Tom Wills (who had previously planned the event for about 15 years). Sponseller noted that he has formalized the planning process and that we should have a smoother and more effective roll out next year. Shay mentioned that each year the Chamber gives a portion of the booth proceeds to Memorial Hall as a donation – especially since they do not charge for the use of the Hall for the event. Since the Chamber did not have the income of a normal year, it was moved by Winne and seconded by Shay that the Chamber donate \$300 to Memorial Hall. All voted in favor.

New Business.

Budget Discussion/Adoption. Treasurer, O'Brien, provided the Board with a draft budget for 2022, based on the budget of the previous year. O'Brien pointed out that a budget can be “living” and should serve as a reference point in guiding the organization’s finances and that we can adjust it as needed and as approved by the Board. The Board made a couple minor alterations to the draft budget. Winne moved to adopt the draft budget as amended, Ware seconded, all were in favor.

Museum Membership: Shay re-iterated that the museum is happy to let the Chamber meet there without charge, saving the Chamber over \$300 per year in meeting space fees. She felt it would be a good idea to support the Museum with a \$30 membership. Shay made the motion to join the Museum and Cambria seconded. All were in favor.

Committee Reports.

Hotchkiss Prosperity Plan update. No updates.

Outreach Committee. No updates.

Announcements/Non-Agenda Items.

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

Adjournment. Shay adjourned the meeting at 10 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Nathan Sponseller, Executive Director