

Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting

Fri., Feb. 1, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m. by President Nick Angeloff.

Present: Board members Gabriel Smith, Sharon Holt, Tracy O'Connell, Jim Brickley, Susan Pryor; bookkeeper Melissa Marks; and guests Barbara Vernot and Winifred Park. Absent: Eldon Whitehead.

Standard monthly checks were signed.

Updates on galley space: The Eagle Prairie Arts District voted to pull out of the gallery space the chamber provided as of Feb. 1, and is in the process of removing artists' work and other materials. Nick is working on bringing in others to share the space to help with the rent.

At present, the non-profit group Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) is using the chamber to meet from 8 to 10:30 a.m. every Friday. The group pays \$15/month to use the facility. Weigh-in is from 8-9:30 and there is a program after that.

Barbara Vernot of the group will staff the Visitors' Center on Fridays to help with keeping the facility open. Natalya of the arts group will continue to staff on Saturdays. Tracy of the chamber staffs on Tuesdays. Nick will approach others such as artists Ed Stone, Francesca Cumero and Kim Reid who have staffed in the past to see if each will take a day in exchange for having art there to sell.

The price for art will reflect the tax, to be paid by the artist each on his/her own. Anyone staffing the gallery needs to indicate whose art sold and get the money in an envelope for that person.

Points to fine tune:

- Reach artists not yet contacted;
- Make sure the prices reflect the tax (vs. prior expectation tax is additional);
- Make sure each artist's work is identified so staffer doesn't have to guess who gets the money;
- Deal with who gets what/how much space;
- Train workers what needs to be done (answer phone/make copies/deal with Visitor Center questions)
- Find guest book and encourage visitors to sign to track our attendance at the center.

Finances: The chamber has \$11,866.42 in the checking account; savings remains unchanged from last month; and there is \$320 in the community garden account the chamber manages for the Community Resource Center.

Christmas lighting update:

- Discussion of need to encourage city to provide lighting to the other medians and Triangle Park to enable more places to be illuminated.
- Surplus decorations are at the chamber. Nick and Sharon Holt are to meet at noon on Sat., Feb. 2 to go over them and determine the best course of action.

Advertising report: All but one advertiser on the newsletter insert has renewed and paid; the other one is being pursued; a new advertiser has shown interest and will be followed up with; an intended story in the Feb. newsletter was omitted and will go in March pointing to open slots to advertise.

Chamber mixer:

- Refreshments will be provided by Wally and Sandra Close – they will donate \$100 worth and Nick will pay for the rest.
- Wine – Nick will check with area wineries and get wine to raffle off and also to be given out at the event.
- Room set-up – Fire chief Shane Wilson was contacted re when and how to get a key. Nick and Tracy will be there at 4-ish to set up/open up.
- Jim and Angie Brickley will greet guests, encourage them to sign in a book Melissa found and give each guest a free ticket for the gift (non-cash) raffle which will include the car care kit from Les Schwab and the wine. They will encourage guests to buy additional tickets and also to buy for the cash raffle. Jim has boxes, tickets and other details handled.
- Publicity - posters were placed around town a couple weeks ago; a news release went out to the media 1/29; the information was posted on FB for chamber, Rio Dell Community Watch and Unplugged sites and at least one site run by Eldon; the event was announced in the monthly newsletter; information was sent to Karen D/Kyle K for the city's electronic sign and requested it to be forwarded to council, planning commission, police, etc.; the flier was sent to Dana Webb for Kiwanis and to MJ Goble for Lions and to chamber board (for Scotia band, membership list, etc.), to the entire list being invited to join/rejoin the chamber, and to Shane Wilson for fire dept., area chiefs, etc.
- Speaker – Shane summarized the envisioned program as: *I may speak as well with Marc. The topic we are discussing is annexation of Scotia with Redcrest and Shively being included into our fire district.*

Front window damage: Nick says his contractor has said it will take up to four hours at \$75/hour to repair the damage to the building caused by rain that is coming in around the front windows and other places. He is to follow up re getting this in writing as well as what the estimate of the materials would be and what guarantee of the repairs working, would we receive.

Phone: While the prior discussion about getting a new phone was put on the back burner when the non-functioning aspect of the present phone was found to be due to Suddenlink, continued problems with the phone led to the decision to get a new one.

New business:

Two news bits came forward that will be used in the March newsletter:

- Scotia Band has a botanist named Dominic Bongio who cloned the trees that were cut down up to two years ago in RD Firemen's Park because they posed hazards – those cloned trees have now been planted in the park.
- Jim Brickley painted inside the school bus shelter on Center on Wildwood which was loaded with graffiti.

Adjournment was at 1:04.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy O'Connell
Secretary