

## **April 2019 Meeting of the Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce**

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by Nick Angeloff, president. Present were Nick, Susan Pryor, Sharon Holt, Gabriel Smith, Tracy O'Connell, Jim Brickley and Julie Woodall guest. The meeting was held at Nick's office since there was an exercise group meeting at the chamber.

It was decided Root 101 will host the May chamber mixer at the fire hall. Nick texted Josh Miraglia at the fire hall to be sure the May 10 date will work. It will start at 5:30 p.m. with 5 p.m. set-up. The topic will be the status of the cannabis industry. Gabriel was encouraged to bring in others to help with the discussion, as needed, and to use Closes for catering.

Julie said April 9 was an event in Fortuna at River Lodge discussing cannabis.

The need for gifts to raffle off was discussed; Nick will do the restaurants, Shell for a gas card, Natalya the artist whose work is at the chamber, and Napa Auto Parts; Susan will do Hoby's and Palco Pharmacy. Gabriel will do Root 101 and Renner. Tracy will contact Grundman's and Adam Dias.

Jim described a poker game he has used elsewhere, in which the proceeds would be split with the chamber and the winner(s). He will make the board needed for the May event.

In addition to this and the raffled off donated items, there will be a 50-50 split cash raffle.

The resignation of Eldon Whitehead was accepted. Discussion was held on the future of the Facebook page he started on the history of the chamber. Sharon said she would ask Janelle to start a new page to go forward on the topic, and Nick said he would ask Jim Garrison to write a quarterly history column in the newsletter.

Nick will follow up on fixing the front window which leaks.

The distribution company called Hard Car which is veteran-owned, signed a lease with the chamber for \$300/month, a quarter of the utilities, and 600 sq. feet of space which will include some storage in the rear, some of the raised office area, and some of the main floor, with use of the conference table when needed. Nick will meet with Morgan, the contact, to figure out the space on Sat., Apr. 6.

Nothing new on art, or the nonprofit that is available to take over the paperwork. Nick has a proposal to spend up to \$700 on advertising in the Ave. of the Giants brochure, of which 160,000 copies are printed each year and there is a web presence as well. Tracy moved and Sharon seconded to pursue that with reference to promoting the eateries on the "Avenue of the Sculptures" in Rio Dell.

Next Wed., April 10, Nick is meeting with a marketing specialist on branded merchandise with an eye towards a draft of a marketing plan for the chamber to promote the community; available is the role of state Visitor's Center since Arcata and Eureka don't want the spot. Sharon moved and Tracy seconded to authorize up to \$500 to pay the contact, Andrea, to develop a plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy O'Connell, Secretary