

Rio Dell – Scotia Chamber of Commerce Board Minutes

June 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 p.m. in Nick's office. Present: Jim Brickley, Sharon Holt, Gabriel Smith and Tracy O'Connell.

Details about the Wildwood Days parade and float were discussed.

Sharon heard Humboldt Redwoods was requiring event insurance for the use of the truck to haul the float, based on her experience with Scotia Band. It was discovered no one has contacted HRC for this year's parade – perhaps in the past Susan did, having contact with the firm. Sharon said she could get the contact info from the Scotia Band member, Dominic, and would contact them herself.

Gabriel has the steps to get people on/off the float. Nick has the grand marshal banner which will go on the float vs. Nick's car as in the past. Dixie Gators are OK with playing, per Jim. Jim has some bunting to dress up the float.

Sharon was meeting with the League of Women Voters contact June 17 and would explore whether they had a banner, bunting for float, someone to emcee the parade if needed, wanted participation in WW Days beyond booth for signups of voter registration – for instance at a veterans event after the parade – and more.

Sharon said she would go to the fire dept. monthly meeting for WW Days June 27 to see if a veteran's event around the flagpole on the fire department side of the street would work vs. in Memorial Park. Tracy said HARDCAR might want to do something as part of the 22 Trees project it does to mark veteran suicides. Gabriel said those trees might not all be planted yet; it was recalled a sign had been broken off a memorial tree planted in Memorial Park that needed to be repaired/replaced. Gabriel will see if Harry Smith, his boss, wants a part for himself/Kiwanis in a veterans event after the parade and check with Morgan from HARDCAR about the trees. Jim will contact the honor guard if an event is forthcoming.

Sharon said we needed cones to block off reserved places for our float/the fire department, so others didn't get in the lineup too early and be mad at having to move. We tried to recall what worked last time re not handing out numbers to avoid entries out of order and other details.

We haven't received funds for parade prizes yet from Fidelity Title.

Tracy will notify media and the database of "usual suspects" about the parade – schools, churches, organizations, political parties – as well as continuing to plug the parade in the next two member mailings that go out monthly to pitch the newsletter being online and other updates, as happened in June, and putting on various Facebook pages.

Sharon moved and Gabriel seconded to approve payment to Melissa for office supplies, Jim for materials for seasonal decorations, and Julie Woodall for plants and dirt to beautify the area. Motion passed

Sharon suggested we give Melissa authority to buy up to \$50/month in office supplies and reimburse herself without needing to wait for board approval. Tracy moved, Sharon seconded, the motion passed.

Discussion moved to the next quarterly chamber mixer to take place in August. Those present supported the idea of having the leadership of the two school districts as the speakers, addressing goals, successes and challenges that lie ahead. At Scotia, Amy Gossein, a long-time teacher, is finishing her first year as superintendent and in Rio Dell, Angela Johnson, principal for two years, is preparing to take over as superintendent as the former superintendent, hired like her two years ago from outside the district, is moving to head the school in Hydesville. A new principal is due to be named next week.

Ideally this would draw their support teams – faculty, friends, school boards and PTOs, as well as parents and the new staff/recently retired (to be honored), etc. – and give a family feel to the chamber.

Jim said he needed help doing the 3 raffles as last time he was alone part of the time and it was too much.

Sharon said she would donate a basket of kid stuff as a prize. We talked about whether to hit up the same businesses that contributed before. Napa, CC Market, and the restaurants haven't been tapped yet and should be.

Tracy is to contact the school leadership to get their reaction/agreement, a Friday date not part of WW Days, and contact the fire department to schedule as well as promote to the media and other outlets.

Jim has followed up with potential muralists for the project on the side of the chamber building, getting prices and availability. He has another to meet with. Sharon mentioned contacting the Ink People as a source of contacts, and discussion included Jim doing the mural at home as cut-outs.

Sharon said the envisioned Christmas tree lighting experience with Scotia Band is running into glitches but she is looking at modifications and different plans for next year.

Sharon said her sister Janelle Palmer is willing to serve on the board if it is desired to fill the seventh seat.

Meeting adjourned 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy O'Connell, secretary