

Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce

November 2022 Board Minutes

The meeting was called to order November 4 at 12:05 p.m. Present were Sharon Holt, Tracy O'Connell, Susan Pryor, and Heather Watkins, members; Amanda Carter, city council liaison; and Sarah Reback, Resource Center coordinator.

Discussion initially centered on timing for placing the flags on Veterans Day, which would be after Daylight Savings Time ended and perhaps rainy, as well as the placement of the veterans salute located on the city hall lawn, the flags for which are still on backorder.

The focus next was on installing holiday lighting on the Eagle Prairie Bridge, for which authorization has not yet been received from Cal-Trans, but for which the traffic control man Wes Nally is standing by, as it is to happen, if approved in time, the weekend of Nov. 12 and 13.

Decorating of the rest of the community – median cut-outs, trees in Memorial Park, the official tree on the median at Columbus, and other street and business decorations, are to be installed the following two weekends if the bridge is done on schedule. The CCC is seeking volunteers from its ranks to assist, and Heather and Sarah each said they are in contact with high school students who might need/want service hours and would help.

Blurbs that they could share with those who might be interested, were developed: that people wanting to help should show up for shifts that would run 9-1 and 1-4 each of the four days (Nov. 19 and 20, and Nov. 26 and 27), wearing work clothes and shoes, bringing chore gloves and snacks/beverages needed to sustain them, and any common tools like electric drills, ladders, wrenches and pliers that they wished. They should meet at the chamber (406 Wildwood) or find the work crews along Wildwood and jump in to help.

Heather introduced materials that she had developed for the holiday decorating contest for homes and businesses, including a flyer that was later run off and distributed throughout both communities. Discussion pertained to handing-off points, that on the last day of signing up one's property to enter the contest, Susan will check the chamber for entries that came by

mail slot and hand all entries over to Heather who will create the voting form with the businesses and residences listed, and get that to Nick, whose employee is to do the accompanying map, that can be used by people wanting to visit the sites to vote.

The tree lighting was addressed. Sarah Reback, the new coordinator of the Resource Center, confirmed her plans for the event were to have activities in which people made decorations that could be put on a separate, indoor tree the Resource Center would have, and refreshments: cider and cookies. Tracy said the Baptist singers were checking on attending.

Amanda said she would put all these activities on her Instagram account, report to the city at its council meeting, and get information posted on the city's electronic sign about the decorating contest and tree lighting.

Heather said she was going to contact the manager of the Scotia Lodge who was interested in doing an event with the chamber and it was suggested that might be a time to tie in the chamber's annual meeting.

Heather wanted to investigate how a program would work in which businesses were able to promote themselves by using locally-distributed "money" and that she would bring that idea to the chamber after learning more about it.

Amanda said the city was highly engaged in the concern that the power utility PG&E would not be able to allow any more Southern Humboldt businesses or residences on its system due to limitations in capacity to serve. She said she would see about getting an article approved by the city manager about it for the December newsletter.

Susan said the Scotia CSD was going out to bid for work that would allow the museum to reopen.

Sarah said she would forward information the photographer Sandi Petersen was offering businesses so the chamber could help promote it.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy O'Connell, secretary

