

Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce Minutes November 3, 2021

The chamber meeting was called to order by Nick Angeloff, president, at 12:01 p.m. Present: Jim Brickley, vice president; Tracy O'Connell, secretary; members Susan Pryor and Sarah Reback; Mavis Amen, Jose Beltran, Frederick Breckenridge, Judith Frost and Melissa Marks.

Tracy moved approval of the check register, Susan seconded, and the motion passed.

Nick said he is working on the new lease agreement for the Community Resource Center's use of the site with Martha Shanahan of St. Joe's, funder of the resource center. He said the new agreement will provide a mechanism to recover the losses the chamber encountered in the past year because the utility costs had gone several hundred dollars per month over the estimated amount. He will provide the details and request approval when the arrangement is firmed up.

The annual membership drive and renewals for advertising are coming up in December. Tracy will provide copy for edits or approval that will go out in the body of an email to the list of current and former members urging their renewal, accompanied by a bill that can be forwarded to accounts payable departments such as many businesses have, a new approach designed to make getting renewals easier.

Discussion of several upcoming holiday activities ensued. Flags will go up on Veterans Day, Nov. 11. Nick said if it is raining he will bring the flags home and dry them for storage. Jim said he will put up the salute to veterans on city hall lawn on Friday afternoon to remain overnight.

Sarah is seeking a donation for a lift to be used in putting up decorations and is to report to Nick in the coming week about the result of that effort, so a lift can be rented if needed.

Melissa and Jose are going to lay out the lights and check the bulbs to be sure everything is ready.

Tracy will contact the CCC's in the coming week about the availability of volunteers and what dates they have signed up for.

Lights will go up on trees in Memorial Park the weekend of Nov. 11 and 12, and on the bridge on Nov. 19, a Sunday, because there will be lighter bridge traffic, and Jim will communicate that to the traffic management team. Andrea at the Resource Center will help on the bridge.

Mavis discussed the home and business decorating contest, which she is setting up online. Nick said his GIS person can do the map in less than a day. Discussion about the need for a map, and paper versions to vote as well as online options, were discussed.

Mavis said the maps, signup sheets and voting sheets could be left at Shotz for people without technology. Sarah said she would provide information and encouragement to participate and have a place where people could get paper maps and voting forms as well.

Nick moved to give the Facebook password to Mavis and Sarah seconded.

The tree lighting event will start at 5 p.m. with Santa arriving in the fire truck parade at 5:30 p.m. and the tree lighting will take place at 6 p.m.

Sarah will check with the school to see if there's a student chorus that can attend and sing carols.

It was suggested that punch could be served in the plastic tumblers which people would then take home afterwards to keep. Sarah said people can make candy handouts in kerchiefs as part of one of the groups that meets at the chamber.

Tracy said she had passed out copy for a brochure calling this event the annual meeting and encouraging renewals or new memberships.

She asked for feedback. Sarah said she could get the brochure laid out and run off.

Jim is going to need materials to complete the last of the kiosks and will get prices on the amount he will need, to get that approved before the purchases are made.

Projects that remain include getting the signs up that point the way to downtown, along with the kiosks and last of the flags for which new holes need to be dug.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy O'Connell, Secretary