

Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce Minutes

October 6, 2023

Present: Susan Pryor, Jim Brickley (by phone), Nick Angeloff (briefly, by phone), Andrea Edington for Sarah Reback, Tracy O'Connell, and community members Julie Woodall and Jose Beltran.

The meeting was not called to order due to a lack of a quorum for more than a few minutes, and business requiring a vote was taken online afterwards. Two items were approved, including the September check roster and renewal of Kiwanis membership of \$150. Nick Angeloff moved, Susan Pryor seconded, and both items passed unanimously.

Details were discussed regarding the upcoming Trunk or Treat event being managed by the volunteer fire department and the community resource center. It will be held at the Rio Dell fire hall on Oct. 31. Susan said rather than a cash donation, the fire department would like people to volunteer. Julie said she would be there; Andrea is in need of decorations such as 'ugly furniture' for a haunted walk along the ball field. She has corn stalks and a budget to rent a fog machine, and a sound system.

The topic moved to the decorating contest the chamber will be holding for the third year. The challenge is managing the online aspects, which were handled by a former board member no longer available to do this project. Susan said she would contact that person in search of information about how it could be updated. Jose suggested a student at the high school as part of a class or club, might be available. Another suggestion was to ask a computer professional what the cost would be to do the work and hope for an offer of a non-profit rate, or even a pro-bono offer.

Nick confirmed that his employee with GIS skills would do the required map so people voting in the decorating contest can see where the participants are located.

Jim announced that the legs of the kiosks had been routed – that was the hold-up to getting them into the ground. He and Susan were to meet in Scotia at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 8, to map out where the flags and kiosks were to go.

Andrea suggested banners on street light poles such as there are in Fortuna as a way to attract travelers to the community and the sense of things happening. She will research the cost from various sources for a half-dozen banners.

Tracy brought up the need to have the annual meeting, a requirement for non-profits, during the tree lighting ceremony as a time when there are people gathered. She suggested those present might get a plastic drink cup purchased for a Pints for Nonprofits event, and decorated

with a kerchief purchased for the Wildwood Days parade, both items of which there were ample left-overs, and filled with festively wrapped candies. Susan suggested a brochure be included announcing this was the annual meeting . . . Tracy will draft up a sample.

Tracy said Lost Coast Communications has joined the chamber at the \$1,000 level with donated advertising. Things to promote were discussed. Jose said perhaps they should be asked what is the best way to utilize the resource. Tracy agreed to meet with them and report back.

Reports included Susan saying that in Scotia, the CSD continued to wait for permits from the county for updating the Winema, and for PG&E to hook up the remodeled museum. There is a new manager at the CSD.

At the fire department, the Dennis Wendt eagle sculpture has been installed and a plaque ordered. New playground equipment has been received and will be installed. The department is doing fire preparedness training in schools. The Body Works gym in Fortuna is donating workout equipment which will be kept in the Scotia fire hall.

Julie said that the city is donating \$3,000 to the chamber for holiday lighting expenses, which include renting lifts to install the decorations since getting donated use of equipment has not been successful.

Andrea described the wide range of activities the resource center was offering, including a community quilt-making opportunity in which participants would sew a square to be used in the quilt. Cooking classes, held at the Scotia fire hall, and other activities were underway.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy O'Connell, secretary