

Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce

November 3, 2025 Board Meeting

President Nick Angeloff called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Present: board members Susan Pryor, Gabe Smith and Tracy O'Connell; bookkeeper Melissa Marks; City Council liaison Amanda Carter; and community members Mavis Amen, Lex Calderon, Wally Coppini, John Ireland, and Aundrea Vaughn.

Tracy announced that board member Sarah Reback had submitted her resignation, citing a lack of time to dedicate to the position.

The board approved the financial report for the past two months with Nick moving acceptance and Gabe seconding.

Gabe moved, and Nick seconded, paying the Kiwanis membership dues. The motion passed.

Susan moved, and Tracy seconded approving the renting of a lift to put up holiday decorations in November and to take them down in January. The motion passed. Wally said he would see if a lift of the type needed could be borrowed from Humboldt Redwood Company.

The tree lighting and annual meeting were discussed; Mavis will put together a flier hand-out promoting the chamber and encouraging memberships and renewals. Gabe said he would staff the table where the fliers, membership applications, and donations box would be during the 90-minute event.

Mavis noted that the Halloween decorating contest drew nearly a dozen entrants, including one business and one Scotia home, and that the Christmas home and business decorating contest was ready to be released. Nick said he would work on getting a map to indicate the locations of participating businesses.

Mavis said the laundromat was having a soft opening and she was in communication with the owners about doing a ribbon-cutting and would let us know. Tracy said there is a new dog grooming business at 99 Wildwood but that it was not looking for a ribbon cutting.

Mavis said she was ready to take over the web site but needed the log-in information from the prior administrator. Tracy said it had been dropped off at the resource center a couple weeks before according to Sarah, and she would try to track down what had happened to it.

Melissa said the chamber's things stored in the back of the resource center needed to be sorted and, in some cases, disposed of. Nick said those things that were his could go to his office, and plywood could be donated to the resource center to use in making additional median decorations for holidays as had been done for Halloween. Aundrea said she would work with Melissa as there were some historical things she could put in the Visitor's Center.

Melissa said she purchased the computer that the board had approved via email the prior week, to replace the 12-year-old model that would not run Windows 11. It was purchased at Costco where it was on sale for \$449, down from \$699. She is paying for insurance on it herself since it is stored at her house.

Tracy reported the Rotary grant could not be submitted because a fiscal sponsor was not identified and explained how the chamber had previously considered setting up a 501.c.3 partner organization to bypass the need for this step. Lex was interested in learning more about doing that and Nick said he would get him the information on it. Amanda offered to help if it was not a problem with her city council role.

Lex said he and EmeraldZ Games and Gifts were working on a Toys for Tots project. Wally has taken the idea of putting a highway-facing billboard to the city council for approval, and it needed to go to the planning commission.

Mavis suggested putting the decision for a theme for Wildwood Days to the community to suggest ideas and vote to narrow down to a few that the chamber could pick from. This was met with agreement. There was support for both Shane and Lisa Wilson sharing the grand marshal honor, and therefore the need for a larger car.

John Ireland introduced himself as operating a local marketing firm, Red Circle Media LLC, which has the slogan, Elevate your brand. He invited those present to check out his website, www.redcirclemediallc.com.

Topics for a future meeting included possibly hearing from him, investigating putting tree lights on a tree on an area hill in future years, and developing a plan to replace Sarah's board position.

Tracy said she would be out of town the next three meetings and would attend virtually but needed someone to operate the computer at the meeting to log on. Ideas about how that could be done, or AI utilized to record the meeting, were discussed. Mavis said she, too, would miss the next two meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy O'Connell, Secretary