



BOARD OF DIRECTORS – MEETING MINUTES
LOCATION: Talkeetna Roadhouse
Tuesday, December 9th, 2014 9:00AM – 10:30AM

Opening / Call-to-Order 9:05am

Presiding Beth Valentine

Board Members in Attendance:

Beth Valentine, Patti Coleman, Stephanie Smothers, Israel Mahay, Cory Kilchrist & Shawn Standley.

Others in Attendance:

Kerry Walter – Administrative Assistant

Approval of Minutes from November 11th 2014 meeting - approved at the GM 11/13/14.

Treasurers Report: Stephanie Smothers & Kathy Stoltz

- A. An overview of the books.
- B. Kathy Stoltz has reconciled the books through 11/30/14.
- C. We still need to audit the books.
- D. Kathy Stoltz started training Kerry Walter – it went well.
- E. Take Ron Quilliam off the Quickbooks and add Stephanie Smothers.
- F. Suggested that invoices be mailed earlier than they have been.

Persons to be Heard: Trevor Walter – Survey & Trisha Costello – Icelandic & European Sales Mission

- A. Trevor Walter shared his thoughts about the survey we sent out to our members.
 - 1. We had 17 members respond to the survey, which is about a 9% response rate.
 - 2. Trevor Walter stated that it seems that members may not understand what the chamber does and recommends that the board educate business on what the chamber does and how it benefits them.
 - 3. Board then discussed if the survey was able to show us how the members think we are doing?
 - i. Stephanie Smothers will Organize Survey Info to help us determine how we are doing.
 - 4. We need to communicate better with our members.

- i. It was suggested that president send a weekly informative email to members.
 - ii. Offer educational classes to the members
 - iii. Inform members about the services the Chamber provides and how they can benefit from utilizing them.
- B.** Trisha Costello asked the board to support her financially, as she will be attending both the Icelandic Travel Show & The European Sales Mission (that is only promoting Alaska!)
 - 1. The board has decided to support her with maps & our banners.
 - 2. The board will further discuss supporting her financially, all or a portion.
 - 3. The board will bring this to the general meeting so members can weigh in.

Correspondence

- A.** Contact Kerry Walter or Beth Valentine for a detailed list of other correspondence.

Committee Reports

Events Committee – Patti Coleman, Cory Kilchrist & Beth Valentine

- A.** Motarized Parade of Lights
 - 1. Thank you Patti Coleman for being a fantastic parade coordinator!
 - 2. Discussed the success of the parade.
 - a. We had a very large crowd.
 - b. There were 19 fun floats.
 - c. The weather was great.
 - d. Santa and Mrs. Clause were in the parade & stayed after to visit with the children.
 - 3. Discussed way to improve parade
 - a. Need to get good pictures of parade.
 - b. Invite business to participate
 - c. Need more board members to volunteer to decorate Chamber Float
 - d. Create map of parade route
 - e. Ask Moores Hardware if they will bring in and sell battery operated lights.
 - f. Have the children come visit Santa after the first trip through town.
 - g. Music was hard to hear.
 - 4. Reimburse Patti Coleman for the coloring book we gave to the children who came to see Santa & Mrs. Clause.
- B.** Tree Lighting
 - 1. Thank you to Israel Mahay, Ron Quilliam, & Cory Kilchrist & family for coordinating the set up of our Town Tree.
 - a. Everyone had a great time & it looks great!
 - b. We could use some more lights.
 - c. Princess is willing to donate more lights.

Motion to extend meeting to 11:00am.

- Stephanie Smothers
- 2nd Israel Mahay
- Unanimous Approved

C. Taste of Talkeetna

1. Anita Golton helped design and print the Taste of Talkeetna tickets – Send her a thank you.
2. Beth will get an update on how many tickets have been sold.

Membership & Community Relations – Membership Drive

- A.** Board members each have a list and will be calling & or email the remaining members who have not renew their 2014-2015 membership.

Scholarship Committee – Beth Valentine

- A.** There was enough money raised from the Old Bag Auction for the scholarship fund.

Marketing & Tourism Committee – Beth Valentine

- A.** Send Check to Fairbanks Sportsman Show
- B.** Marketing Meeting will be on Dec. 15th at 4:00pm, at Denali Brew Pub (Twister Creek).
- C.** Tell members about the calendar and teach them how they add their own event.

Beautify Talkeetna – Beth Valentine

- A.** 12 picnic tables were donated to us from Lowes of Wasilla/Steve Hanson
- B.** Welcome RV rentals into town with a card - tips on where you can park your RV.

Talkeetna Community Council – Beth Valentine

- A.** Recycle Program
1. Would need 3 bins for recyclables
 2. Would need to hire a sorter

Old Business

- A.** Discussed The Membership Drive – board will be contacting members who need to renew their memberships.
- B.** Banking
- Motion to remove Nancy Dolecki from bank account.
 - Cory Kilchrist
 - 2nd Stephanie Smothers
 - Unanimous Approved
- C.** Bookkeeping update
1. Kerry Walter started her training with Kathy Stoltz.

New Business

- A.** Budget
1. Formed a committee with Israel Mahay, Stephanie Smothers, Kerry Walter & Beth Valentine.
 - Meeting will be Friday Jan. 9th at 10:00am at K2 Aviation.

B. Trooper Discussion

1. Several negative comments have been made on Facebook and other social media platforms about the increase of trooper presence in Talkeetna and if the chamber is responsible.
2. We sent letters of support (to keep the Talkeetna station open, not loose trooper positions and have 24hrs patrol) to Wes Keller, Mike Dunleavy, and Governor Parnell.
3. There are not more troopers at the station but they have been active in the area recently.

C. Live @ 5 Sponsorship 2015

1. Tabled until Jan. 6th 2015 Board Meeting

D. Discuss Trisha Costello's request for chamber support.

1. Asking the board to financially support her trip to the Icelandic Travel Show & The European Sales Mission (that is only promoting Alaska!)
 - Motion to support Trisha Costello with as many maps as she can carry and use of the banners.
 - Patti Coleman
 - 2nd Stephanie Smothers
 - Unanimously Approved
2. The board will bring this to the general meeting so members can weigh in.
3. The board will further discuss if we will support her financially at the Marketing Meeting on Dec. 15th at 4:00pm, at Denali Brew Pub "twister Creek".

Upcoming Meetings & Announcements

- **Jan. 6th** - Chamber Board Meeting at 9:00am at The Roadhouse.
- **Jan. 8th** - Chamber General Meeting at Mtn. High Pizza Pie (6:30pm social). *Guest speaker will be:* Marge Stoneking who is the Executive Director for the American Lung Association in Alaska.
- **Feb. 10th** - Chamber Board Meeting at 9:00am at Latitude 62'.
- **Feb. 12th** - Chamber General Meeting at Denali Brew Pub "Twister Creek" (6:30pm social). *Guest speaker will be:* Trevor Walter talking about being a Chamber Member as well as the Chamber Website and how they benefit you.
- **Mar. 10th** - Chamber Board Meeting at 9:00am at The Roadhouse.
- **Mar. 12th** - Chamber General Meeting at Meandering Moose Lodge (6:30pm social). *Guest speaker will be:* John Klapperich will be speaking about small business.
- **April 7th** - Chamber Board Meeting at 9:00am at Latitude 62'.
- **April 9th** - Chamber General Meeting at NSI (6:30pm social). *This will be our Non-Profit Roundup.*
- **May 12th** - Chamber Board Meeting at 9:00am at The Roadhouse.
- **May 14th** - Chamber General Meeting at Upper Susitna Senior & Community Center (6:30pm social). *This will be our 1 Minute Sound Off!*

Adjourned: 11:07am (December 9th, 2014)

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Kerry Walter,
Administrative Assistant
Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce*