



General Meeting Minutes
February 11th, 2016 11:45am-1:00pm
Flying Squirrel Bakery & Cafe

Board Meeting Begins: 12:00pm

1. President Trevor Walter

Board Members in Attendance:

1. Casey Ressler
2. Trevor Walter
3. Israel Mahay

Others in Attendance:

Kerry Walter – Administrative Assistant, Ron Quilliam, Mable Quillam, Tina Pijuan, Diane Okonek, Eric Denkwalter, Holly Sheldon Lee, Emily Feters, Carissa Mills, Howard Carbone, Kathy Stoltz, Denise Richardson, Haskell Kent, Matthew Herod, Whitney, Wolfe, Aj Sullivan, Anita Golton, & Paul Rodrick.

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting as Written

- Motion to accept Jan. 14th 2016 meeting minutes as written - Casey Ressler
- 2nd Shawn Standley
- Unanimous

Treasure Report: Kerry Walter – report online.

Persons to Be Heard:

1. Holly Sheldon Lee
 - a. Shared her thoughts about implementing a traffic plan.
 - b. The safety issues.
 - c. Borough has a specialist that can come and help make a traffic plan.
2. Whitney Wolfe
 - a. Shared about taking advantage of borough planning for our traffic issues.
 - b. Suggestions - focus on high traffic bus area, paint a crosswalk, slower speed limit & educate larger vehicles.
 - c. Asked the members to share their thoughts with the traffic committee.
 - d. Asked for volunteers to join the traffic committee.

- e. Response to traffic issues seemed to be in support of making some changes.
- 3. Diane Okonek
 - a. Shared about bear safety - 2001 six bears were killed in Talkeetna.
 - b. Encouraged good human bear interaction.
 - c. Encouraged businesses to educate their employees and guest about bear safety by handing out rack cards and put up Bear Necessities posters.
 - d. They have a children's book called Ballad of a wild bear.
 - e. Buy bear proof garbage can now. You can request garbage cans from Bill Sterns.
 - f. Businesses responsibilities to empty garbage cans.
 - g. Asked Chamber to put on the website info about bear safety.
 - h. Kerry Get original copy of Bear Necessities poster for Visitor guide from Anita Golton.
- 4. Howard Carbone
 - a. Introduced himself and shared with the members about his business of 12 years, Alaska Nature Guides.
- 5. Matt Herod
 - a. Shared with the members all the upcoming groups that Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge will be hosting this winter and spring.
 - b. Kerry Walter will send this list out to the members in an email.
 - c. Open to the general public May 17th.
- 6. Aj Sullivan
 - a. Shared with the members about a non-profit referral program from H&R Block.
- 7. Haskel Kent from MTA.
 - b. Shared with the members about deregulating MTA.
 - c. It will save members money.
 - d. Look for ballots that are coming in the mail middle of this month.
 - e. Encouraged the members send in their votes to eliminate RCA Controls.
- 6. Anita Golton
 - a. Shared about Flaying Squirrels Valentine Dinner and Bear vs. Wine paring.

Correspondence:

- 1. MEA Scholarship & Sponsorships
- 2. Rotary - Talkeetna Service Project
 - a. Street Sweeping, Set out Picnic tables & picking up Trash.
- 3. Anita Golton - Farm to Table suggestion for Visitor Guide.
- 4. Alaska State Railroad Plan
- 5. NPS - Teacher Scholarships available for Summer courses in Denali.
- 6. DAC Letter to borough with regards to the bathrooms and the water usage.
- 7. Sunshine Community Health Center - Strengthening Families workshop.
- 8. Underpass Update
- 9. Questions about Talkeetna's Stance on the Marijuana industry.

Committee Reports:

- 2. *Marketing & Events Committee*

- a. Winterfest - N/A
- b. Taste of Talkeetna Committee – N/A
- c. Centennial Committee – Kerry Walter
 - i. Centennial Celebration will be July 4th.
 - ii. We are hoping to host the following events, dunk tank, paper airplane contest, birthday cake, BBQ, children’s fishing pond, moose poop bingo, local music, and of course, The Moose Parade & Auction.
- d. Visitor Guide Committee – Trevor Walter
 - i. Next visitor guide meeting is 1:00pm on Feb. 17th at Latitude 62’.
 - ii. Q & A session with general members.
 - iii. Need to get all materials to the printer by March 15th 2016.
- e. Website Committee – Trevor Walter - N/A
- f. Beautify Talkeetna Committee – Trevor Walter
 - i. Getting more specific info from Beth Valentine.
- g. Map Committee – Trevor Walter
 - i. Trevor Walter will start working on this soon.
- h. Live at Five - Trevor Walter
 - i. Need volunteers to be on the committee.
 - ii. Need sponsorship.
- i. Moose on Parade - Trevor Walter
 - i. Need volunteers to be on committee.
 - ii. Need a good auctioneer. - Casey Ressler or Jimmy Sandy
- j. MSCVB - Casey Ressler
 - i. Just got back from National Tour Ass. - Talkeetna is a big topic.
 - ii. Two ½ weeks they will be heading to Berlin for Largest Travel Show in the world with about 35,000 people there.
 - iii. Monthly luncheon on Friday Feb. 12th - Guest speaker is ABSP.
 - iv. Alaska reached over 2 million visitors for the first time in 2015.
- 3. *Membership & Community Relations – Kerry Walter*
 - i. *Membership* - Committee will recheck business licenses each year.
- 4. *Scholarship – Kerry Walter*
 - i. Committee met on Feb. 2nd 2016 at the library.
 - ii. We will be bringing the scholarship info to the board for a vote.
- 5. By-Laws Committee – Shawn Standley
 - i. In the process of making changes to the by-laws.
 - ii. The board will review first then bring those changes to the members.

Old Business:

- 1. Audit – Finished
- 2. Review of Administrative Secretary & Bookkeeper responsibilities.
 - a. She is doing great.

New Business:

1. Welcome new businesses
 - a. Rustic Elegance
 - b. Talkeetna Wolf Den Cabins
2. Sportsman Shows
 - a. Mat-Su Sportsman Show Mar. 18-20th - Matt Herod Volunteered for March 18th.
 - b. Anchorage Sportsman Show Mar. 31st – April 3rd - Matt Herod Volunteered for April 1st.
 - c. Fairbanks Outdoor Show April 22nd-24th
3. Chamber is Sponsoring the Hudson Memorial Fly in at \$250.00 level.
4. Board decided to donate \$100.00 to the Talkeetna Public Library as a thank you.
5. Advertising with Bearfoots & Alaska Chamber was tabled at the Feb. 9th board meeting.

Upcoming Meetings & Announcements

- Mar. – 8th Board Meeting at Latitude 62' at 10:00am
- Mar – 10th General Meeting at Talkeetna Roadhouse 11:45pm-1:00pm.
- Mar. - 18th- 20th Mat-Su Sportsman Show.
- Mar. – 31st- Apr. 3rd Anchorage Sportsman Show.
- Apr. – 12th Board Meeting at Talkeetna Roadhouse at 10:00am
- Apr. – 14th General Meeting at NSI (Non-Profit Round Up) 11:45pm-1:00pm.
- Apr. – 22nd-24th Fairbanks Outdoor Show.
- May – 10th Board Meeting Latitude 62' at 10:00am
- May – 12th General Meeting at Upper Susitna Senior Center - 1 Minute Sound Off! 11:45pm-1:00pm.

Adjournment: 1:14pm (February, 11th 2016)

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Kerry Walter

Administrative Assistance

Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce