



**TALKEETNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Meandering Moose Lodge
Thursday, Mar. 12th, 2015, 6:30pm Social**

General Meeting Begins: 7:05pm

- President Beth Valentine

Members in Attendance: Beth Valentine, Israel Mahay, Patti Coleman, Shawn Standley, Cory Kilchrist & Stephanie Smothers

Others in Attendance:

Kerry Walter – Administrative Assistant – See Attachment

Additions to Agenda:

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting as Written

- Motion to approve minutes as written from Feb.12th 2015 – Beth Valentine
- 2nd Israel Mahay
- All Unanimous

Treasure Report: Kerry Walter

- A. Shared YTD Budget – See attached report.
- B. Shared that next year we will need volunteers to be on Audit Committee.

Persons to Be Heard: Randall Kowalke, Dora Miller & Sarah Kehoe

- A. Sarah Kehoe – Health Fair
 1. Sunshine Clinic Health Fair will be held on Sat. March 14th and hosted at Upper Susitna Senior Center from 9:00am -1:00pm.
 2. Available March 19th- 20th 2015 free dental package for anyone over the age of 65 years old and older.
- B. Dora Miller – Colors of Winter – Talkeetna Photography Show
 1. Open House March 13th 2015 from 6:00pm-8:00pm hosted by DAC.
 2. Show runs through April 8th 2015.
- C. Randall Kowalke – Running for District 7 Mat-Su Borough Assembly Member.
 1. Goal to represent all people in this district.

Correspondence:

- A.** ATIA – Starting FAM Trips
- B.** Clean Air Challenge – May 9th 2015
- C.** Alaska Aviation Board - Resolution 15-02 failed
 - 1. Shared with the members the letter of clarification the board wrote to Alaska Aviation Board.
- D.** Contact Kerry Walter or Beth Valentine for a detailed list of other correspondence.

Committee Reports:*Events Committee – Beth Valentine*

- A.** Live@5
 - 1. Looking for \$7500.00 in sponsorships
 - 2. First show will be June 6th 2015
 - 3. Help keep people off the village grass until first show.
 - 4. Passed Sign-Up sheet to sponsor Live at 5.

Membership & Community Relations – Kerry Walter

- A.** We have increased our membership numbers.
- B.** Shared with the members the possibility of the Talkeetna Trooper Station closing.
 - 1. We passed around the letter that the board wrote to keep the Talkeetna Trooper Station open.
- C.** We have another 6000 town maps.
 - 1. Available at The Beadberry Patch
 - 2. Total cost was \$1556.00

Scholarship – Beth Valentine

- A.** The Talkeetna Chamber Commerce will be awarding \$1500.00 in scholarship money this year.
 - 1. Application is the same as last year.
 - 2. It may go to one winner or be split between several winners.
 - 3. Applications are available.

Marketing & Tourism – Israel Mahay & Shawn Standley

- A.** Business cards are ready to be ordered.
- B.** We are expanding our presence on the Visit Anchorage site.
 - 1. Still need a panoramic photo to represent Talkeetna.

Beautify Talkeetna Project – Beth Valentine

- A.** Announced that the next meeting will be Thursday March 19th 2015 at 10:00am the Talkeetna Roadhouse.
 - 1. Please bring your ideas to meeting.
 - 2. A member mentioned that our “Welcome to Talkeetna” Sign is broken.

MSCVB Report – Israel Mahay

- A.** Main goal of the MSCVB is getting the Gateway Visitors Center up and going.
 - 1. Have secured the property and have the planning process is in the advanced stages.
 - 2. There will be TV’s Showing Tours, Kiosks, book tours and much more,
- B.** Second goal is getting the Southside Denali Visitors Center up and going.
 - 1. This one will be very helpful with tourism in the upper Mat-Su Valley.

Talkeetna Community Council Report – Beth Valentine

- A.** Discussed the plans for recycling in Talkeetna.
 - a. The committee is asking business for donations to purchase containers which will cost about \$25,000.00
 - b. The container will only be for residents, no businesses will be able to use them.
 - c. Next meeting for the Talkeetna Community Council Recycling Committee will be March 24th at 7:00pm at the Talkeetna Roadhouse.
- B.** Shared that the Susitna River Lodge was granted a variance for them to build.

Old Business:

- A.** Town Christmas Tree
 - 1. We will be taking the tree down after the last Iditarod Musher finishes the Race.
 - 2. Asked for volunteers - Cory Kilchrist, Ron Quilliams & Israel Mahay volunteered.
 - 3. Stephanie Enders said “Come over to Nagley’s if you still need help.”
- B.** The Alaska Sportsman Shows
 - 1. Asked for members to donate prizes for the shows.
 - a. Passed around a sign up sheet for members to donate prizes to the Sportman Shows.
 - 2. Asked members to volunteer to work shifts at the Sportsman Shows.
 - a. Passed around a sign up sheet for working shifts at the Sportsman Shows.
 - Mat-Su Outdoorsmen Show - March 27, 28, & 29th
 - Friday, March 27th - noon to 7:00pm
 - Saturday, March 28th – 10:00am to 6:00pm
 - Sunday, March 29th – 10:00am to 5:00pm
 - Anchorage Outdoorsmen Show - April 2,3,4 & 5th
 - Thursday, April 2nd - 4:00pm to 9:00pm
 - Friday, April 3rd - 12:00pm to 8:00pm
 - Saturday, April 4th - 10:00am to 8:00pm
 - Sunday, April 5th - 10:00am to 5:00pm
 - Fairbanks Outdoorsmen Show - April 17, 18, & 19th
 - Friday, April 17th - 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm
 - Saturday, April 18th - 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
 - Sunday, April 19th - 11:00am to 5:00 pm

New Business:

- A.** Welcome new businesses – Denali Trekking Company
- B.** Voted in new members Nova River Runners Inc., K&P Food and Camping & Alaska Retreat LLC. (Belle’s Cabin).
 - Motion to vote in all new members – Patti Coleman
 - 2nd Cory Kilchrist
 - All Unanimous

- C. Moose Parade Committee**
 - Asked for volunteers to be on Moose Parade Committee.
 - Passed around a sign up sheet for members to volunteer to help with Moose Parade Committee.
 - The first Moose Parade Committee meeting will be Tuesday, March 17th at 10:00am at the Talkeetna Historical Museum.
 - Moose Cutouts are \$125.00
 - The cost to donate moose for auction will be \$25.00.

- D. Money Market Account**
 - Discussed putting \$10,000.00 into the Money Market Account from the Operating Account.
 - Motion to put \$10,000.00 into Money Market Account – Sarah Kehoe
 - 2nd Israel Mahay
 - All Unanimous

- E. Online Credit Card Services**
 - Discussed setting up online credit card processing through Quickbooks.
 - The cost would be \$19.95 per month.
 - Motion to accept online credit card payments through Quickbooks – Patti Coleman.
 - Stephanie Smothers
 - All Unanimous

- E. Webmaster Report – Google Keywords**
 1. Shared with the members the keyword report. (See Report)
 2. Chamber did not pay for this new service
 3. Trevor Walter set this up on the site.
 4. Reminded members to submit their events on to the Calendar of Events.

- F. Add new Statewide Events Category**
 1. Discussed with the members adding a statewide events category to our calendar of events page on the website.
 2. Efele charges \$150.00 per hr. at half hour increments.
 3. Thank You, to Debbie Whitecar, for creating for free, the new Statewide box with original graphics.
 - Motion to add the Statewide Events & Meetings to the calendar of events. – Larry Dearman
 - 2nd Mable Quilliam
 - All Unanimous

- B. Skate Park – Request for Letter of Support (See Attached Letter).**
 1. Discussed with the members the pros and cons of a skate park.
 2. Cost to build a skate park. \$150,00.00

- Motion to write a letter of support for a recreational area in our community that supports and benefits the youth and adds to their health and wellbeing. We support the borough removing the old library and keeping the property as borough owned and operated. – Larry Dearman
 - 2nd Israel Mahay
 - All Unanimous
2. Beth Valentine will write letter and send to board for approval.

Upcoming Meetings & Announcements

- **March 21st** – Oosik Classic 2015
- **March 27th** - Mat-Su Outdoorsmen Show - Mar. 27th-29th 2015.
- **April 2nd** - Anchorage Outdoorsmen Show - April 2nd-5th 2015.
- **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.*
- **April 17th** - Fairbanks Outdoorsmen Show – April 17th-19th 2015.
- **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*

Adjournment: 8:44pm (March 12th, 2015) – Motion Israel Mahay

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Kerry Walter
Administrative Assistance
Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce