



**TALKEETNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
Northern Susitna Institute  
Thursday, April 9th, 2015, 6:30pm Social

**General Meeting Begins: 7:00pm**

- President Beth Valentine

**Members in Attendance:** Beth Valentine, Israel Mahay, 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 Mar.12th 2015 – Cory Kilchrist
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Gretchen MacDonald
- 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: Matt Herod**

- A. Matt Herod– Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge
  1. Will open May 10<sup>th</sup> 2015 and close Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> 2015
  2. The Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge is still Ciri operated
  3. Will be hiring 30-31 J1's for 2015
  4. Will be inviting businesses to come and hear about the J1 Policies and procedures.
  5. Booking for 2015 are looking about the same as last years.
  6. Would like to see if the local businesses are willing to participate in the Passport program again.

## **Correspondence:**

- A. Clean Air Challenge – May 9<sup>th</sup> 2015
- B. Talkeetna Recycling Works Fundraiser April 18<sup>th</sup> 6-10pm at the Hanger.
- C. Earth Day April 25<sup>th</sup> as NSI from 11am-3pm.
- D. Puffin Day Pass – Discounts for Alaska Adventures
- E. MEA & Church on the Rock are each hosting a BBQ at Live at Five.
- F. 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 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 & last show will be Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> 2015
  - 3. Help keep people off the village grass until first show.
  - 4. Passed Sign-Up sheet to sponsor Live at 5.
- B. Moose Parade – Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup> 2015
  - 1. Applications are available on DAC's Website or with Beth Valentine.
  - 2. Moose cutouts are \$125.00 contact Geri Denekwalter if you need one.
  - 3. Entry fee to donate moose for auction is \$25.00

### *Membership & Community Relations – Beth Valentine & Kerry Walter*

- A. We have 157 members.
- B. Sportsman Shows
  - 1. We have participated in both Mat-Su and Anchorage Sportsman Show.
  - 2. Many sportsman attendees asked if the Moose was a Prize.
  - 3. We ended up with just over 850 emails to add to our email list.
  - 4. We drew 21 names for prize winners.
  - 5. Fairbanks Sportsman Show is April 17-19<sup>th</sup>.
  - 6. We will be handing out Ice Cream coupons at the Fairbanks Show.
- C. Princess Wilderness Lodge Update
  - 1. Opens May 14<sup>th</sup> 2015
  - 2. Would like the businesses to let them know directly if they would like to participate in the Passport Program.

### *Scholarship – Beth Valentine & Kerry Walter*

- A. The Talkeetna Chamber Commerce will be awarding \$1500.00 in scholarship money this year.
  - 1. It may go to one winner or be split between several winners.
  - 2. Applications are available on the Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce website, and at the Talkeetna post office.
  - 3. Senior Awards day is May 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm at the Talkeetna Senior High, 2015, a board member need to be there to present scholarship awards.
  - 4. This scholarship is available to anyone pursuing post secondary education.
  - 5. All applications need to be postmarked by Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### *Marketing & Tourism – Israel Mahay & Beth Valentine*

- A. ATIA - We are investigating the possibility of advertising with them.
  - 1. Sending postcards to the leads that come in.

*Beautify Talkeetna Project – Beth Valentine*

- A. Focused on the Welcome to Talkeetna Sign.
  - 1. We may need a variance to place it between the Spur Rd. and the road to turn down to the Talkeetna Railroad Station.
  - 2. This land is DOT land we might need to talk to The Talkeetna Community Council.
  - 3. We will consider other locations.
- B. Beth Valentine and Steve Hansen are working on making signs.
  - 1. Congested Area Ahead
  - 2. No Turn Around For RV's
  - 3. Please Walk Over and Use the Pedestrian Walkway.
- C. Jenny Krepel shared that the borough is on board to repaint the streets.
  - 1. Businesses need to keep their walkways swept.
  - 2. No parking signs
  - 3. May need to re-educate business
  - 4. Jenny Krepel will let us know when the repainting is scheduled to happen.

*MSCVB Report – Israel Mahay*

- A. Everything is normal and going according to plan.
- B. Attend the MSCVB's Travel Auction Extravaganza Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Evangelo's.

*Talkeetna Community Council Report – Beth Valentine*

- A. Discussed the plans for recycling in Talkeetna.
  - 1. Mat-Su Borough clarified that small businesses are allowed to use the recycling containers if they already take their garbage to the dump.
  - 2. We encouraged individual businesses to donate.
  - 3. Talked about businesses getting together and having our own container.
  - 4. There will be two containers purchased each will have three sections.
  - 5. The recycling materials that will be recycled is yet to be determined.
  - 6. The pricing will be same amount of garbage for ½ the price.
  - 7. If a business donates \$1000.00 they can have their logo on the containers.
  - 8. Drawing up paper work on ownership of the containers.
  - 9. Here is a proposed donation out right now from a business for a \$1000 if another business will match this.
    - a. K2 aviation has volunteered to match the \$1000.00 donation.
  - 10. The Talkeetna Community Council's Recycling Committee has received two grants.
    - a. Mat-Su Health Foundation for \$10,000
    - b. National Park Service for \$10,000

**Old Business:**

- A. Fairbanks Sportsman Show April 17-19 2015
- B. New feature on our Events Calendar.
  - 1. We now have a Statewide Meetings and Events section on our Calendar of Events Page.
- C. Credit Card Processing
  - 1. Working with Quickbooks to get this all set up for this fall.

## **New Business:**

- A.** Welcome new businesses – Birch View Cabin & Talkeetna Taxi
- B.** Announced Sportsman Show winners (See Attachemnt).
- C.** Discussed talking to the DOT about of getting the speed limit reduced from the school to the stop sign.
- D.** Money Market Account Israel Mahay Share that he is trying to set up a small hockey tournament in Jan. 2016.
- E.** Picnic Tables
  - 1. Lowes has donated 12 picnic tables to the Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce.
  - 2. We are looking into someone to pick up the tables from Lowes or seeing if they can deliver them.
  - 3. We will need to varnish the tables at the end of April or first of May.
    - a. Looking to see if anyone would like to donate the varnish.
    - b. Looking for volunteers to help varnish the tables.
  - 4. We are looking for a business to create and donate plaques for each table, thanking Lowe's for their donation.
  - 5. We are looking for places to put the tables.
  - 6. List of where tables will be placed will be available in May.
- F.** Restructuring of the Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce
  - 1. Kerry Walter who is both our administrative assistant & bookkeeper is almost working full time for us.
    - a. We have plenty of work for her to be full time.
  - 2. We are looking at renting a building so we can have a physical location.
    - a. We could sell souvenirs to raise more money for the Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce.
    - b. It would benefit our visitors to have the ability to call us or stop by.
  - 3. We are looking into having a paid position such as an Executive Director or paying the president.
  - 4. We are looking into having an Executive Director and a board to run the Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce.
- G.** Hudson Memorial Fly-In – May 16-17<sup>th</sup> 2015 at the Heliport.
  - 1. There will many fun activities for the whole family such as a scavenger hunt.
  - 2. Stephanie Enders will send a complete list of activities.
- 3. Discussed donating town maps to the Hudson Memorial Fly-In.
  - Motion to donate 50 maps to the Hudson Memorial Fly-In – Stephanie Smothers.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Israel Mahay
  - Unanimous

### **Upcoming Meetings & Announcements**

- **April 17<sup>th</sup>** - Fairbanks Outdoorsmen Show – April 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> 2015.
- **April 18<sup>th</sup>** – Talkeetna Recycling Works Fundraiser 6-10pm at the Hangar
- **April 25<sup>th</sup>** – Earth Day 11am-3pm at NSI
- **May 9<sup>th</sup>** – Clean Air Challenge – All Day
- **May 12<sup>th</sup>** - Chamber Board Meeting at 9:00am at The Roadhouse.
- **May 14<sup>th</sup>** - Chamber General Meeting at Upper Susitna Senior & Community Center (6:30pm social). *This will be our 1 Minute Sound Off*
- **May 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>** – Hudson Day Memorial Fly-In.
- **June 5<sup>th</sup>** – Live at Five in the Village Park at 5:00pm

**Adjournment:** 8:07pm (April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015) – Motion Gretchen MacDonald

*Minutes respectfully submitted by:*

*Kerry Walter*

*Administrative Assistance*

*Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce*

\*See Attachment for list of Non-profits who came to speak.