



**TALKEETNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Upper Susitna Senior Center
Thursday, May 14th, 2015, 6:30pm Social

General Meeting Begins: 7:00pm

- President Beth Valentine

Members in Attendance: Beth Valentine, Ron Quilliam, Patti Coleman & 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 April 9th 2015 – Patti Coleman
- 2nd Ron Quilliam
- Unanimous

Treasure Report: Kerry Walter

- A. Shared YTD Budget – See attached report.

Persons to Be Heard: Felicia Desimini & Diane Okonek

- A. Felicia Desimini – Assistant Director of Art at the Mat-Su College
 1. Mchetanz Arts Festival at the Mat-Su College June 2th-7th.
 2. Art, poetry, 3-D printing, theater and many other workshops being offered.
 3. You can register and find out more by visiting matsu.alaska.edu/MAF
- B. Diane Okonek – Bear Necessities Coalition
 1. Reminded us about bear safety and proper disposal of garbage.
 2. Looking for welder to make 55 gallon drums into bear proof garbage cans.

Correspondence:

- A. Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge – Open to public May 18th
- B. Cliff Hudson Fly In – May 15-17th
- C. National Park Service
- D. Contact Kerry Walter or Beth Valentine for a detailed list of other correspondence.

Committee Reports:

Events Committee – Beth Valentine

- A. Live@5**
 - 1. We wrote DAC a check
 - 2. We have logos for all sponsors
 - 3. First show will be June 6th 2015 & last show will be Sept. 4th 2015
- B. Moose Parade – Saturday, July 4th 2015**
 - 1. Applications are available on DAC's or Chamber Website.
 - 2. Moose cutouts are \$125.00 contact Geri Denekwalter if you need one.
 - 3. Entry fee to donate moose for auction is \$25.00
 - 4. Last committee meeting will be at the end of May.
 - 5. We could use some help for the parade & auction.
 - a. Volunteers – Christina Overturf, Stephanie Smother, Pattie Coleman & Kerry Walter.

Membership & Community Relations – Beth Valentine & Kerry Walter

- A.** We have 160 members
- B.** We will be sending out newsletters to members this summer.
- C.** We will be contacting all members to make sure the billing info is correct.
- D.** We will be contacting business about any specialty accommodations or services they offer.
- E.** We will collect and taking photos of Talkeetna, events, business, activities for the “101 Reasons to Visit Talkeetna” Facebook campaign.

Scholarship – Beth Valentine & Kerry Walter

- A.** We awarded \$2400.00 in scholarship money.
 - 1. The winners were Dawson Matthews - \$1000.00
 - 2. Heidi Holcomb - \$700.00
 - 3. Heidi McKee - \$700.00
- B.** Thank you to Geri Denekwalter for heading up the committee.

Marketing & Tourism –

- A.** Stipens will be decided marketing committee.
- B.** We encouraged members to go to the sportsman shows.

Beautify Talkeetna Project – Beth Valentine

- A.** Need clarification on Spud rules and regulations.
- B.** Working on Parking Signs
- C.** Picnic tables will be delivered by Lowes.
- D.** Plaques for picnic tables have been ordered.

MSCVB Report – N/A

Talkeetna Community Council Report – Beth Valentine

- A.** Discussed the plans for recycling in Talkeetna.
 - 1. You can get recycling can fro AIH \$40.00.
 - 2. We are getting two containers for recycling.
 - 3. Borough is considering shutting down the Talkeetna Transfer site accept for recycling.
 - 4. The transfer station could be privatized.
 - 5. Will be open 20rs hrs. per week for recycling only.
 - 6. Contact Butch Shaprio from the borough about the transfer site.

Old Business:

- A. Fairbanks Sportsman Show**
 1. We gave away 500 ice cream coupons for Nagley's & Shirley's.
 2. Thank you to Shirley's Burger Barn is donating the ice cream.
 3. The attendees were up this year by over 500.
- B. Credit Card Processing**
 1. Is up and running!!! We can now take credit cards.

New Business:

- A. Voted in new businesses – Alaska's Ultimate Trophy Hunting & Salted Pickle.**
 - Motion to accept Alaska's Ultimate Trophy Hunting & Salted Pickle by Patti Coleman
 - 2nd Stephanie Smother
 - Unanimous
- B. Welcome new businesses – Christina Overturf, Susitna River Trading Company, Alaska's Ultimate Trophy Hunting & Salted Pickle.**
- C. River Front Clean Up**
 1. Asked for volunteers.
 2. Look at sign up sheet
- D. Google Report – see report.**
- E. Membership fees have been raised to the following amounts.**
 1. Associate membership - \$50.00
 2. Non-Profit membership - \$65.00
 3. General membership - \$100.00
 4. Web Link - \$75.00
 5. Email Inquiry - \$50.00
 6. New Map feature \$25.00
 7. Sportsman Show will be \$25.00 each to participate.
 8. Reason for increase to pay for future expenses such as website, executive director and rental space.
 9. We will send a letter out in Aug. announcing the new fees.
 10. Board will have a workshop this fall on running an efficient and effective chamber.
- F. Discussed having a new website built.**
 1. Discussed having a new website designed that is mobile friendly.
 2. Google has set new rules about sites that are not mobile friendly.
 3. We will lose our mobile traffic without a mobile friendly site.
 4. New website will cost \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00
 5. We will ask for quotes for a new website design.
- G. Vote new board member to fill Cory Kilchrist empty seat.**
 - Beth Valentine nominated Dora Miller.
 - 2nd Patti Coleman
 - Unanimous

Upcoming Meetings & Announcements

- **May 15th** – Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge Scavenger Hunt
- **May 16th-17th** – Hudson Day Memorial Fly-In.
- **June 5th** – Live at Five in the Village Park at 5pm to 7pm.
- **July 4th** – Moose on Parade starts at 12:00pm on Main Street

Adjournment: 8:12pm (April 14th, 2015)

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Kerry Walter

Administrative Assistance

Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce

* See Attachment for list of business who came to speak.

* Ron Quilliam won door prize from MEA.