

MINUTES

July 8, 2009

Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce

Civic Center Public Meeting Room

12:00 Noon

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Moss at 12:15pm. Present: Vice President Moss, Directors Flanagan, Ginsburg, Harrell, Jones, Pistoresi, and Banks. Absent: President Scroggins, Treasurer Fall, Past President Ahmed, and Director Chavez.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT – Section 2

City Administrator Red was present to give an update on the city. The Budget is a difficult issue the city is working through. Some potential shortfalls are being reviewed and considered. At the last City Council meeting a budget was adopted; at this time the Chamber request was not cut. However, there might be minor cuts but not totally remove the Chamber request because of the benefit the Chamber has to the city. There may be some personnel cuts, most of which are unclassified. Efforts are being made to try to fit within contracts outside city personnel on parts that the city personnel can perform. Still waiting for wisdom from the state regarding which categories they will decided to take from the cities. If the state takes more than the city is anticipating; then there may be some critical cuts.

City Administrator Red introduced the new Assistant City Administrator Wayne Padilla. Position filled after many years of not having an assistant. Because of golden handshakes, the Council decided to join the Finance and Administrative Services Departments as part of the cost savings measures. Wayne will be the department head of the two departments effective August 1 but officially is on staff as of July 1.

Wayne introduced himself as a Madera native, gave his background of previous city finance jobs he held throughout the valley and the economic downturn effects on cities. He has coined the phrase “living with the new normal” since he does not feel that things will go back to being the same as they were.

City Administrator Red noted that the City move will take place sometime the latter part of August and in offices by Labor Day. Red also mentioned that she and the Chamber Manager have been working on the July General Business Meeting agenda.

Director Pistoresi asked if the chamber was going to have the same office and would the City services be the same. Vice President Moss noted that as part of the County’s agreement with the City, the Supervisor will have the corner office in the old City Hall building. Administrator Red commented that the Chamber will have the larger area of the front part of the building; the move is an effort to keep the Chamber in the budget and increase their benefit to the City as a point of information for the City, a concept of a Welcome Center/Information Hub.

Administrator Red noted that negotiations with an industrial prospect are going well and in anticipation of this industry; the city has the potential of a grant from the state for the infrastructure. The city hopes to make the announcement about the business in the near future. Potential employment is 30-40 initially then going up to close to 60 once in full operation.

Director Pistoresi asked about the construction on Robertson across from Ralls & Ladd with Administrator Red advising that Auto Zone corporate is pulling the permits and until other businesses rumored to also be in the building request a license, no other businesses have been listed.

Administrator Red noted there are a couple of rehabs in the redevelopment area downtown that are on the General Meeting agenda so will save those for the July program.

Vice President Moss mentioned that in his recent conference call the cost to the state per day without a budget is around \$25mm which means that programs could be complete cut rather than reduced if a budget is not approved soon in the Sacramento.

Vice President gave his thanks to Administrator Red and noted that the Board had a quorum to proceed with the Agenda.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

CONSENT CALENDAR – Section 3

3.1 Approval of the Consent Calendar of June 10, 2009, Board of Directors Meeting minutes and attendance.

Motion was made by Director Ginsburg and seconded by Director Flanagan. There being no discussion, motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Section 4

4.1 Chowchilla Youth Football requesting an e-blast sent to the Chamber membership for support of the Youth Football Program.

Motion made by Director Pistoresi and seconded by Director Jones to send information to the membership. Discussion followed. Motion passed.

REPORTS – Section 5

5.1 Administrative Reports

Treasurers Report:

Manager Flanagan reviewed the reports due to Treasurer Fall absence. Manager Flanagan noted a refund from EDD was listed in the income uncategorized area. Director Pistoresi inquired regarding the cash fund from the Motorcycle Show was not listed separately. The Manager noted it was included in the income amount under Minor Events.

Motion made by Director Ginsburg, seconded by Director Flanagan to accept the Treasurer's Report. No discussion. Motion passed.

Director Harrell advised that the Chamber Audit Committee report would have to continue to next month as her committee has not received information from Treasurer Fall.

Manager Report:

Manager Flanagan reported that two new members have joined since the last meeting: In House Placement Solutions and Rainbow Party Jumpers. In House Placement Solutions is an employment staffing service. A ribbon cutting for In House Placement will be held Thursday, July 16 at 11:00 a.m. in front of the chamber office. In House is a home based business and cutting will take place in front of the Chamber office (or across the street in the park).

Two members renewed with 15 members pending with over 50 membership packets out with follow up as time allows.

The Manager advised the Caltrans Ribbon Cutting for the Fairmead overpass is being held on July 9th

with two of Chowchilla's member businesses providing services to Caltrans for the event.

Manager Flanagan requested the Board's decision on whether to continue membership for those members who have not paid after the 6-month extension.

Motion made by Director Ginsburg and seconded by Director Jones to continue the extension to allow businesses to renew their membership for 2009. Motion passed.

The SaveMart S.H.A.R.E.S. program was approved for the Chamber with 250 cards being sent for distribution to members, families and friends to support the Chamber with a portion of their purchase value sent quarterly to the Chamber. Manager Flanagan requested the Board's help in distributing the S.H.A.R.E.S. cards when they arrive.

5.2 Committee Reports

Working:

Motorcycle Show:

Director Flanagan reported that the ride had a very low turn out due to a number of factors such as hot weather and other motorcycle rides. 16 riders signed up but profit was a negative \$99.00. A number of community persons attended so it was successful in that area as well as the Good Samaritan Food Pantry did receive cash and food contributed by the riders and community. The event did get the Chamber presence out to the community.

Director Ginsburg commented the Manager Flanagan had organized the event and arranged the park to make it enjoyable for those who did participate and attend. Chair Moss thanked all those who helped with the motorcycle event.

Maps:

Manager Flanagan reported that the map project is moving along with the City personnel finalizing the updates on the map with the City engineer. Then the map committee will be signing the contract within the next few weeks.

General Meetings:

In Director's Chavez absence, Manager Flanagan reported that the July meeting will be held on July 30th instead of July 22nd, 8a – 10:30a with city updates, EDC update, CCMA, chamber updates, and business introductions.

The October meeting is moving forward with the subject on Water. Notices are being included in the newsletter about the upcoming and October meetings. Also flyers will be available on the tables at the July meeting of upcoming Chamber events.

Golf Tournament:

Director Pistoressi commented that the committee is already to go. Friday, September 18th at Pheasant Run Golf Course is the scheduled date. Manager Flanagan has pulled a number of names of past participants and the committee is in the process of contacting them. The Committee is working to keep the costs down with the entry fee at \$75.00; however everything we touch is higher than it used to be. Director help to get players, soliciting donation, and help working the day of the tournament; Manager Flanagan has a few members willing to help the day of. Starts at 12:00 with registration and raffle sales, shot gun start at 1:00 pm, then a light dinner around 5:00pm or so.

Discussion ensued regarding the cost of the dinner and how the Chamber can keep the cost down with a tri-tip sandwich, salad, and beans and the Chamber providing appetizers as the players come in prior to dinner. Director Banks offered his services to the committee. Director Pistoressi noted he has been unable to get the past golf tournament files from past Director Pomo. Director Banks offered to stop by and discuss with Roxanne.

Ad Hoc:

Christmas Decorations Refurbishing:

In President Scroggins absence, Manager Flanagan reported that with the two donations receive the Chamber still did not have enough matching funds to begin the refurbishing project of the street pool decorations.

Office Move:

Manager Flanagan noted that once a definite move date is set by the City, the Move Committee will meet with the City representatives to discuss floor plan for the office.

OLD BUSINESS – Section 6

Action: Non-Renewal of Membership Extension

Action was taken under the Membership Report given, see Section 5.

NEW BUSINESS – Section 7

Action: Collette Travel for 2010 Destination Proposals

Deferred to August Meeting

Action: Free Rent at Heritage Station for Chamber Office

Deferred to August Meeting

Action: U. S. Census Partner Support Program Funds

Motion made by Director Flanagan, seconded by Director Ginsburg, to submit to Census Bureau the PSP form for promotional items purchased from a local vendor. After a brief discussion, the motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Section 8

8.1 Caltrans Fairmead Overpass Ribbon Cutting, July 9, 10:30 a.m.

8.2 Madera Arts Council Annual Gala at Madera Golf Course, June 13, call 661-7005

8.2 Manager Comp Days off, July 9 through 13

8.3 Lions Blood Drive, Chowchilla Fairgrounds, Little Theater, July 15, 4-8pm

8.4 Chowchilla Redfins Chicken Dinner, Life Change Church, 7/18, 5-7pm

8.5 20th Annual Block Party, Sports & Leisure Park, 5:30p – 9:30p

ADJOURNMENT – Section 9

Motion made by Director Flanagan, seconded by Director Pistoresi, to adjourn that meeting at 1:00 p.m. Motion passed.