

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 10, 2010
Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce
Civic Center Public Conference Room
12:00 Noon

CALL TO ORDER – Section 1

The meeting was called to order by President Moss at 12:115 p.m. Present were: Vice President Banks, Treasurer Jones, Past President Scroggins, Directors Brock, Christoffersen, Flanagan, Harrell, and Pistoresi. Absent was Directors Bump.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Section 2

Amy Reid, Lombardi & Gilles, Attorneys at Law, introduced herself and invited the Chamber to attend their Open House at 1300 W. Robertson Blvd. Ms. Reid gave a brief description of their services, their office locations including home office in Salinas and their plans for the Chowchilla & Central Valley areas.

Charlie Altekruise, Community Relations Director for the North Fork Mono Rancheria, introduced himself and Avis Punkin, Tribal Treasurer. Mr. Altekruise stated he was present to request the Board to reconsider the Board's recent decision to overturn their nearly 3-year support of the North Fork Rancheria Highway 99 Project and really all projects that bring jobs to the community and the valley. Mr. Altekruise addressed his five big issues to compel the Board to reconsider regarding promoting common purposes of supporting chamber mission, North Fork's support of the Chamber; principle of balance and fairness of business practices, commitment, and ethics of reversing support. Mr. Altekruise explained the tribal land law regarding casinos and thanked the Board for allowing him to make his request. Again he asked for the Board to reconsider the Board's neutral position. Ms. Punkin commented that the Tribal Counsel would appreciate the Board's support of the project.

CONSENT CALENDAR – Section 3

Action: Ratify Minutes and Attendance of February 10, 2010, Board of Directors Strategic Planning and Board Meeting.

Motion made by Director Flanagan, seconded by Treasurer Jones, to accept the Consent Calendar as presented. No discussion. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Section 4

4.1 Voters FIRST Act sponsorship letter – due to Director Brock not being present will be tabled to April Meeting.

4.2 Chowchilla-Madera County Fair sponsorship letter – Manager Flanagan reported that the Fair sponsorship of \$250.00 is in the Chamber Budget.

Motion made by Director Pistoresi, seconded by Director Flanagan, to approve sponsorship of the 2010 Fair in the amount of \$250.00. No discussion, motion passed.

Manager Flanagan reported that copies of two correspondences that came in after the Agenda was sent are in the Directors' packets.

- Fossil Discovery Center, March 30, 2010, tour of the new Center. Copy was included in packet per Manager Flanagan.
- Business Education Stakeholders Luncheon, Madera Compact,

REPORTS – Section 5

5.1 Administrative Reports

Treasurers Report

Treasurer Jones reviewed the monthly reports in the Director's packets. Treasurer Jones requested the Board's decision to send letters to members who have not renewed their 2010 dues per By-Laws or extend the opportunity for them to renew. Manager Flanagan noted that the Board did extend the 2009 dues past the March 31st By-Laws deadline.

Consensus of the Board was to extend the time for members to renew and re-address on the June Agenda.

Manager Report

Manager Flanagan reported that 4 new members have joined since February Meeting; Central Valley Plumbing, Lotus Warrior Yoga, Mary Kay Independent Consultant Libby Cross, and Realty World Hometown Association. Also reported was that 29 members have renewed the 2010 membership.

Manager Flanagan reminded Directors of the ribbon cutting at the Lotus Warrior Yoga Thursday, March 11th at 11:00 a.m. Also reported will be the ribbon cutting with the Open House at Lombardo & Gilles on Friday, April 9th.

Manager Flanagan noted that a staffer from Westerlund's office to see if the Chamber Board would like to host a candidate forum for our local candidates. Also included in the packet is a letter by Ryan Jones, Inhouse Placement Solution, is sending this letter to the City Council requesting that the Council notify local businesses to bid on services required by the City.

5.2 Committee Reports

Working:

Valentine Wine Express

President Moss reported that the fund raiser made \$1,800.75 due largely to the raffle and auction. President Moss thanked those who donated raffle and auction prizes. Comments were favorable about the event except from Matt at Farnesi's that if the event is held in 2011; he will pre-sell tickets for the dinner following the event. His concern was that he had three waitresses on duty due to the head count but half the people did not stay for dinner.

Maps

Manager Flanagan reported the maps are in and being distributed to the advertisers. The maps will be sent to Madera County EDC for use in their Broker Packets and offered to local businesses to sell. Comments from various Directors were given regarding the map was well done.

General Meeting

Manager Flanagan reported that the March General Meeting will be held March 31, 2010, at 12:00-1:30pm at the First 5 Family Resource Center Conference Room. Flyers will be mailed this Friday per Manager Flanagan. The topic is the High Speed Rail Project with Speakers Mayor Jim Kopshever and

Chowchilla Water District Director Kole Upton. Lunch will be provided at \$7.00 for the sack lunch.

Golf Tournament

Director Pistoresi reported that he mailed out the Save the Date postcards to past participants. Difficulty with this is many of the players did not completely fill out the registration forms so a lot of research to find addresses. Director Pistoresi then deferred the report to Golf Chairman Director Banks. Director Banks will distribute flyers around town to publicize the event. Director Banks requested a list of previous Tee Sponsors and businesses who donated prizes so he can share the list with Directors to help make the tournament a success.

Car Show

Director Flanagan reported Save the Date postcards to participations for the last three years.

Ad Hoc:

2011 Boat Races Fact Finding:

Vice President Banks reported has met with a Lions Club representative, the Lions Board met and discussed; the City Council Meeting discussed with assigning the Police Chief to insurance cost assessment and boat docks condition, and insurance and other costs specifically required for the Boat Races many picked up by the promoter. Not sure if the contact Ken Dollar, Lucus Oil is the promoter or is seeking a promoter but for sure everyone wanting the boat races to come to Chowchilla. It is pretty much from the Lions' point of view their event and the City's point of view. At this point we have all the right people talking and a lot of hurdles to cross to determine if the event can be held in 2011. Manager Flanagan was requested to let Dave Wolin know that the parties are discussing; however, insurance costs, boat dock repairs, and contracts for use of the reservoir are major issues since none of the entities have funds to cover these costs. Director Banks will continue to follow up with the Lions and City to determine how the discussions and their fact finding are progressing; holding the 2011 boat races is not dead. Director Banks noted a former promoter advised the event is a lost leader but does allow racers to set records.

Grant Application for Community Event Fact Finding:

Manager Flanagan reported that the Board of Supervisor's website, the Madera County Community Grant Application, which was sent to each Director, found of importance a grant cannot be awarded for ongoing operations; special consideration is given to those grant requests with matching funds; and the minimum grant request is \$25,000. Taking the cost of hosting the Block Party, the costs are about \$5,000 plus staff time; so it would appear the event would not meet the grant requirements.

Discussions followed regarding how the meet the grant requirements in order to host a Block Party or Community Events. However wages or salaries cannot be included in the grant with the target for one year using matching funds from community service and volunteer hours of the Directors as well as the city's contribution of park services. The Board assigned the task of determining the viability of submitting a grant to the Manager, Vice President and Past President to bring information back to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS – Section 6

Action: Approval of Chamber Manager 2010-2012 Contract

Motion was made by Director Banks, seconded by Director Christoffersen, to approve a contract for the Chamber Manager to a three-year period, 2010-2012. Following discussion a roll call vote was taken: Vice President Banks, yes; Director Christoffersen, yes; Director Flanagan, abstained; Director Harrell, yes; Treasurer Jones, yes; President Moss, yes; Director Pistoresi, yes; Past President Scroggins, yes. Discussion followed regarding contract terms and Manager Goals. Motion passed with one Director abstaining.

NEW BUSINESS – Section 7

No New Business

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Section 8

- 8.1** Ribbon Cutting – Lotus Warrior Yoga, Thursday, 3/11, 11a
- 8.2** Trinity Pregnancy Resource Center Open House, Friday, 3/12, 4p-7pm
- 8.3** Manager Vacation, 3/18 thru 3/23, Chamber Office Closed
- 8.4** 45th Annual Dairyland BBQ Dinner, Dairyland School, 3/20, 5-7:30p
- 8.5** Chowchilla Speedway Opening Season Race, 3/21 and 3/28
- 8.6** Chamber General Meeting, High Speed Rail – Chowchilla Area, 3/31, 12:00 Noon
- 8.7** City/Soroptimist Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Sports & Leisure Park, 4/3, 10a-12p
- 8.8** Chowchilla Stampede Cattle Drive, 4/7, 10am

ADJOURNMENT – Section 9

Motion made by Director Flanagan, seconded by Director Harrell, to adjourn the meeting. President Moss commented that is any item or items presented at the meeting today that any Director would like to have placed on the next agenda, please contact the Manager Flanagan to put on the Agenda. Motion passed. Adjourned at 1:25p.m.