

Minutes
NFCoC Monthly Working Board Meeting

7:30am, Thursday, August 5, 2010
The Buckhorn Saloon

Call to Order ~ @ 7:30am by Bob McKee for Jack McGowan

Board Member Attendance: (4 + Jack's proxy = 5), Bob, Mark, Jen, Pat Beihn,
Guest: Charlene Lewis

May Minutes Approval: yes

Ongoing Business

1. **Membership & Internet Update** ~ Jen
No new members since last report. Facebook page has 12 fans.
2. **Treasury & Budget Report** ~ Mark & Bob
Treasury balance=\$ 2120.60, License plates sold well this month = \$96.10, budget is still in draft form, Jack to finalize and report back to Board

Old Business

3. **Street Lights for Downtown North Fork** ~ Bob
Bob has been keeping track of the county's grant progress with the help of Eric and Johannes. We will know more in late September.
4. **Donated Items Rummage Sale Fundraisers for 2010** ~ Bob
Bob recommends that we think of other fundraising ideas besides the rummage sale due to lack of available resources for the sale process.
5. **D&O/Liability Insurance** ~ Joan, no report
Estimated annual costs for our own insurance, Foster & Parker in Oakhurst?
6. **Chamber CDC Membership Issue** ~ Jack, via status report
Dan agreed that Joan is a member of the CDC Board as the Chamber Rep. He is still insisting that we pay for a CDC business membership, \$100.00 per year. He also thinks we should pay for last year. Jack said no to both, explaining that we are short of funds for the things we a committed to this year and that there was no way we could add another \$200.00 to the budget at this time.
7. **Chukchansi Grant Bid** ~ Jack & Bob
Jack still must ask Mike Nolen to approve the \$2K grant funds to come from the Grizzly fund. Bob reports that we are in a waiting pattern until September when the grants will be announced.

Representative & Committee Reports

8. **NF Rancheria Update** ~ Pat (Katrina's board position replaced by Pat Beihn)
There is a new duplex being built by Willow Creek. News coming soon about the new Avenue 17 & Hwy 99 casino project.
9. **EDC Update** ~ Elissa, absent, no report

10. **CDC Update** ~ Joan, absent, no report
11. **Sierra Vista Scenic Byway Update** ~ Mark
Byway scheduled 2 educational tour days this summer. The first one was very well attended. Next one is Saturday, August 7th. The Redinger Overlook new railing has been painted. Next, the bench and plaque must be installed.
12. **Mountain Chamber Networking Meeting** ~ Jack, via status report
Next meeting likely to occur in September. No new news at this time.
13. **NFCoC CVC Update** ~ Jack, via status report, Mark
Mark reports that the next CVC meeting has not yet been scheduled. Ideas from the first meeting include: a town newsletter or newspaper, and door to door polling of the Main Street businesses to ask them what they think the Chamber should be doing. Both of these ideas caused much discussion in our monthly Chamber meeting without much support for either idea. (see discussion outlined below) Jack reminds us that the Board needs to receive a cost estimate and project scope projection from the CVC before any of these projects can be voted on and approved by the Chamber.

Discussion during monthly meeting:

Lower cost (in both dollars and manpower) alternatives to the newsletter idea include an official NFCoC web blog and/or enhancing our existing Facebook page and long standing official chamber website. Digital media is much easier and faster to update than print matter, as well as being more cost effective in many ways. It is also environmentally friendly and responsible (green!), with no paper involved to store, to litter and to throw away. With any news media, the ongoing challenge will be to provide fresh articles to share with our readers. Historically, this has been a weak spot for our Chamber. We just don't have enough interesting stuff to talk about and share with our business members.

No one at the monthly meeting was interested in conducting the door to door polling of the Main Street businesses. Usually we get this kind of information yearly during our annual membership drive, so to do it more often seems redundant and unnecessary. The Board suggests that if business owners or other townspeople want to communicate with the Chamber, then they are welcome to attend a monthly meeting, call us on the phone or email us with their thoughts and ideas. They may also contact any of our Board members. All of our Board members' names, businesses, phone numbers and email addresses are published on the Chamber website, so that anyone who wishes to contact any or all of us may do so.

The main agreement in our monthly meeting discussion was that the Chamber's mission and reason for existence (according to our history and bylaws) is to support and promote the *businesses* of our local community by using the 3 E's of our mission statement: "Educate, Encourage & Enhance". We are not a general town community organization. We are a business networking organization. Businesses join our Chamber to network with other business members seeking the mutually beneficial goal to grow & improve everyone's business.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20am
Next Monthly Meeting ~September 2, 2010