

**Chehalis Community Renaissance Team (CCRT)**  
**March 9, 2018**  
**Meeting Notes**

Randy Mueller called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. with the following members present: Jill Anderson, Chelle Bonham, Susan DeLaire, Trevor Elliott, Michael Ervin, Tiffany Etherton, Isaac Freeman, Michele Gallagher, Terry Harris, Tamara Hayes, Bobby Jackson, Dan Kay, Tanya Laeger, Jerry Lord, Jason Matteson, Mitch Moberg, Randy Mueller, Nichole Sampson, Annalee Tobey, Brian Wilkins, and Derrick Wojcik.

**1. Welcome and Introductions of Guests**

**2. Partner Updates & News:**

- a. **Community Farmer's Market at Chehalis:** Chelle Bonham informed the group of a spring event at the Olympic Club in Centralia, more information to follow.
- b. **Lewis County Historical Museum:** Jason Matteson informed the group that a World War I exhibit is now on display at the museum. He also informed the group of an upcoming event regarding local mythology which will take place on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- c. **Young Professionals of Lewis County:** Trevor Elliott spoke of mentorship program with the school district. Randy Mueller spoke about internship programs within the community and encouraged everyone to participate, emphasizing the need to inspire youth to stay in the area.
- d. **Executive Director Report:** Annalee Tobey told the group about the recent ribbon cutting at Spry and her excitement to work with them. She then discussed the Chehalis Opportunity Tour that took place in the fall, and the success and positive impact the tour had for the downtown area. The benefits of the newly installed fiber internet were discussed. Annalee then informed the group that the cap for the B&O tax will be met, and the Renaissance team plans to obtain the additional funding available on April 1, 2018.

**3. Committee Reports:**

- a. **Economic Restructuring:** Trevor Elliott commended the success of the Opportunity Tour, pointing out that the number of vacant buildings had decreased from twelve to only three. The Chehalis Coworks was then discussed, and the usability of the space was explained and discussed. Expansion of the project was briefly discussed, Annalee expressed her willingness to share any knowledge with other towns looking to create a similar project.
- b. **Design:** Michele Gallagher informed the group that the bench restoration project for downtown Chehalis is well underway. She also reminded the group of the upcoming Art Bench program that will feature work from local artists in themes that reflect Chehalis. A pilot program for recycling downtown, banner displays, and the downtown beautification project were briefly discussed.
- c. **Promotion:** Tanya Laeger expressed the desire to get word out about the coworking space. Realtors, social media, school districts, and brochures were discussed as options for promotion of the space.
- d. **Organization:** Randy Mueller informed the group that policies were currently being written regarding conflict and anti-harassment.

**4. Other Updates/Announcements/Good of the Order**

- a. Randy Mueller informed the group of Orrin Smith and Matt Swena's deaths. Cards will be available at the next meeting to sign.
- b. Trevor Elliott informed the group that a 'Shark Tank' style investor program will be coming to Lewis County.
- c. Brian Wilkins reminded the group that a 'Business After Hours' will be held at Rainier Connect on March 15, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 A.M. by Randy Mueller.

**Next meeting is Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 A.M. to 9:30 A.M.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kiley Franz, City Manager's Administrative Assistant.