

Chehalis Community Renaissance Team (CCRT)

May 11, 2018

Meeting Notes

Tanya Laeger called the meeting to order at 8:32 A.M. with the following members present: Jill Anderson, Mo Anderson, Lindsey Center, Susan DeLaire, Bill Deutscher, Chip Duncan, Hank Epstein, Michaelyn Erickson, Michael Ervin, Tiffany Etherton, Kaylee Fast, Isaac Freeman, Michele Gallagher, Chris Hardesty, Terry Harris, Tamara Hayes, Tanya Laeger, Matt Matayoshi, Jason Matteson, Larry McGee, Karen McSwain, Dr. Isaac Pope, Rachael Reiton, Chris Rohr, Nicole Sampson, Melissa Shoemaker, Jill Thibault, Rebecca Tripp, Annalee Tobey, Hunter Weeks, Ed Wegel, Brian Wilkins

1. Welcome and Introductions of Guests

2. Partner Updates & News:

- a. Community Farmer's Market at Chehalis:** Rachael Reiton and Michaelyn Erickson informed the group that opening day of the Friday Farmer's Markets was that evening, May 11th, at 4:00 P.M. They expressed their excitement and encouraged everyone to attend.
- b. Lewis County Historical Museum:** Jason Matteson spoke regarding the success of the Mythology Exhibit held on April 28th, it was a sold-out event. He expressed his desire to purchase an LED sign for the museum to promote events around the city.
- c. Lewis County EDC:** Matt Matayoshi told the group about the Smart Tank event coming to the area on June 8th and 9th. He explained that the event had ten participants and encouraged local business owners to attend the workshops on Friday, June 8th. The contest portion of the event will take place on Saturday, June 9th at 1:00 P.M.
- d. Executive Director's Report:** Annalee Tobey informed the group that she and Michele Gallagher will be attending the 2018 Main Street Now Conference in Port Townsend. Annalee also informed the group that work on the Chehalis Coworks' courtyard would begin soon; she also invited members to attend social media and website training with Spry that will be held over the next six months. Annalee then informed the group that a façade improvement grant had been awarded to the Chehalis Auto Center to replace the sign and paint the building.
- e. Recreation Park: Penny Playground –** Dr. Isaac Pope spoke regarding the fund-raising efforts for Penny Playground. He explained that the new leads for the project, Jessica Homyack and Thomas Gorman, were new to the area. He explained that the project aimed to be proactive in replacing the playground before it became a hazard, and to provide more accessible equipment for those with disabilities. Dr. Pope invited everyone to attend a public meeting on May 18, 2018 at 4:00 P.M. at Recreation Park in the Fred Hess kitchen.

3. Committee Reports:

- a. Design:** Michele Gallagher thanked the Chehalis Rotary for their help in refurbishing the benches in the downtown area. She explained that the benches for the Art Bench project had been delivered to their respective artists. The work on the second mural downtown will begin as soon as weather permits.

- b. Promotion:** Tanya Laeger informed the group that Chehalis Fest was coming up and new brochures for Experience Chehalis were being distributed. Sponsorship for Chehalis Fest was briefly discussed, Tanya encouraged any interested members to contact her or Annalee.
 - c. Economic Restructuring:** Annalee Tobey explained that another façade application has been approved, and three new façade applications had been received and are in review. The success of the program was briefly discussed.
- 4. Other Updates/Announcements/Good of the Order**
 - a.** Larry McGee informed the group that the Chehalis Rotary was now raising money for the Discover! Children’s Museum. The ‘Leap the Levee’ event was briefly discussed, the 5k run/walk is also a fundraiser for the Discover! Children’s Museum.
 - b.** Jill Anderson reminded the group that the Penny Playground improvement project is part of a bigger plan to renovate Recreation Park.
 - c.** Fairgrounds – Tamara Hayes informed the group that a community garage sale will be held at the fairgrounds on May 12th and 13th.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 A.M. by Tanya Laeger.

Next meeting is Friday, June 8th at 8:30 A.M.

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