

Chehalis Community Renaissance Team (CCRT)
May 10, 2019
Meeting Notes

Nicole Sampson called the meeting to order at 8:35 A.M. with the following members present: Jill Anderson, Katie Blurton, Connie Bode, Larry Cook, Susan DeLaire, Bill Deutscher, Chip Duncan, Trevor Elliott, Rick Fisher, Terry Harris, Bobby Jackson, Patty Kaija, Jerry Lord, Mitch Moberg, Randy Mueller, Nicole Sampson, Pam Simpson, Heather Stewart, Joy Templeton, Lilly Wall, Ed Wegele, Brian Wilkins, and Shane Wood

1. Welcome and Introductions of Guests

2. Partner Updates & News:

- a. Chehalis Foundation/Penny Playground:** Connie Bode of the Chehalis Foundation explained that the Recreation Park/Penny Playground project had successfully received both grants they had applied for, as well as \$250,000 from the state's capital budget. She thanked Senator Braun, Representative Debolt, and Lilly Wall for their assistance. Connie Bode invited everyone to attend the time capsule reveal at Penny Playground on Sunday, May 19th at noon. Upgrades to the ballfields, replacement of the current Penny Playground, and other aspects of the project were discussed.
- b. Delfin Agency:** Nicole Sampson explained that she had recently left Spry Digital Marketing to open her own business, Delfin Agency. She informed the group that her services now include small business development and website development.
- c. Community Farmers Market at Chehalis:** Annalee Tobey informed the group that the plant sale had been a great success. The regularly scheduled farmers markets will begin on Tuesday, June 4th.
- d. Executive Director's Report:** Annalee Tobey informed the group the Shaw Aquatics Center will open on Sunday, June 16th. She invited everyone to attend the Business After Hours event at the Chehalis Coworks on Thursday, May 16th at 5:00 P.M. Annalee excitedly informed the group that the Darigold building on Main Street has been scheduled to be demolished beginning the week of May 20th.

3. Committee Reports:

- a. Economic Restructuring:** Trevor Elliott informed the group that a project was in the works to help fund the façade improvement program. He informed the group that the Downtown Business Academy would be holding classes for the remainder of the year. The program is designed to facilitate commerce through education.
- b. Design:** Mitch Moberg explained that he and Ed Wegele had taken a field trip the previous Saturday to research design elements. He explained that three more garbage can lids had been completed, three more art benches are being painted, and locations for additional murals are being scouted. Patty Kaija explained that this year, the downtown flower beds would also assist in a pollination and attract bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and other such animals.
- c. Organization:** Andy Skinner informed the group that the boundaries for the Main Street organization requirements are in review. A strategic planning session for the CCRT has been scheduled for Saturday, May 18th.

- d. **Promotion:** Annalee Tobey informed the group that a new business, Doggy Designs, has opened in downtown and she is working with them regarding the façade improvement grants. ChehalisFest preparations have begun, and a Gambler 500 will take place during the event. Annalee encouraged everyone to visit the Experience Chehalis website at www.experiencechehalis.com.
- 4. Other Updates/Announcements/Good of the Order**

 - a. Joy Templeton of Once Upon a Thyme informed the group that they would be holding a traditional tea event for Mother’s Day.
 - b. Chip Duncan of the Veterans Memorial Museum informed the group that the museum would be hosting the Rust or Shine car show on Sunday, September 1st and had posters available for anyone interested.
 - c. Susan DeLaire mentioned that the Lewis County Seniors would be holding a Shop and Sip event, which feature a fashion show and wine from local wineries, on Friday, July 19th.
 - d. Randy Mueller of the Port of Chehalis informed the group that a community meeting regarding possible uses of the R.E. Bennett and Cascade schools would be held on Wednesday, May 22nd at the school district offices.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 A.M. by Nicole Sampson.

Next meeting is Friday, June 14th at 8:30 A.M.

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