

Chehalis Community Renaissance Team (CCRT)
September 13, 2019
Meeting Notes

Nicole Sampson called the meeting to order at 8:37 A.M. with the following members present: Jill Anderson, Krista Carper, Larry Cook, Susan DeLaire, Bill Deutscher, Trevor Elliott, Michaelyn Erickson, Terry Harris, Christine Hoffman, Bobby Jackson, Dan Jones, Shelleen Lundeen, Jason Matteson, Alyx Racimo, Brandon Rakes, Nicole Sampson, Lindsey Senter, Pam Simpson, Heather Stewart, Joy Templeton, and Annalee Tobey

1. Welcome and Introductions of Guests

2. Partner Updates & News:

- a. **LewisTalk:** Dan Jones explained that the Talk platform for local communities had been created ten years ago and focused on the positive news in each area. He explained that LewisTalk could be viewed on either a website or mobile platform. He introduced Krista Carper, who had recently become the publisher for the area.
- b. **Rackimo Java:** Alyx Racimo informed the group that he had spent five years in the coffee industry before making the purchase of the coffee stand by the courthouse. He explained that he planned to have snacks and possibly small lunch options in the near future.
- c. **Farmer's Market:** Michaelyn Erickson informed the group that the 13th annual Harvest Dinner would take place on Sunday, September 29th at City Farm and the theme would be a masquerade ball.
- d. **Flying Saucer Party:** Jason Matteson informed the group that the Chehalis Flying Saucer Party would take place on Saturday, September 21st. He explained that there would be an Area 51 exhibit at the museum, a 'Saucer Drop', speakers at City Farm, and Mystery Science Theater 3000 playing at the Chehalis Theater. He directed the group to visit www.flyingsaucerparty.org for more information.

3. Committee Reports:

- a. **Executive Director's Report:** Annalee Tobey thanked all of the B&O tax donors. Annalee Tobey informed the group that she had applied for lodging tax funds and would go before the committee to discuss the program on Tuesday, September 24th. She explained that lodging tax funds were used to cover the costs of brochures, Facebook ads, website creation, and other tourism related items.
- b. **Promotion:** Lindsey Senter explained that the promotions committee planned to create a simple, postcard style card for local hotel rooms to help promote tourism. This card will contain information on local attractions, restaurants, and shops.
- c. **Economic Restructuring:** Trevor Elliott informed the group that the Market Street Pub, Chehalis Eye Care, and Totally Pawsome had installed their new signage and the Fechtner's building, the Washington Hotel, and Furniture World had been re-roofed. Nicole Sampson informed the group that the next Downtown Business Academy would take place on October 16th and would cover merchandising.
- d. **Design:** Annalee Tobey informed the group that the patio at the Chehalis Coworks was almost complete and a mural was being debated for the area. The CCRT is working with

the City of Chehalis to create artistic designs for the electrical boxes throughout the city. Nicole Sampson expressed her excitement over the creative and hardworking design committee and thanked the members for their efforts.

- e. **Organization:** Nicole Sampson informed the group that the Board had completed the budget review and thanked Tom Bradley for his work as the Board Treasurer. She announced that the Board had decided to work on strategic planning through the Evans School of Public Policy and Governance.
- 4. Other Updates/Announcements/Good of the Order**
- a. Bobby Jackson informed the group that Lewis County had purchased a piece of property, which had recently burned down, and planned to create a campus of county agencies in Chehalis. He explained that the County planned to create a campus that followed the aesthetically pleasing style of Chehalis.
 - b. Holiday Decorations Committee: Terry Harris shared some of this year's holiday décor and invited the group to participate in the trial run of the gingerbread house. The committee will meet at the airport at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday, September 22nd.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 A.M. by Nicole Sampson.

Next meeting is Friday, October 11th at 8:30 A.M.

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