

Chehalis Community Renaissance Team (CCRT)
July 10, 2020
Meeting Notes

Nicole Sampson called the meeting to order at 8:35 A.M. with the following members present: Jill Anderson, Bill Deutscher, Chip Duncan, Michael Ervin, Meri Hamre, Bobby Jackson, Patty Kaija, Larry McGee, Brandon Rakes, Nicole Sampson, Annalee Tobey, Emily Von Flotow, and Ed Wegele

Meeting was held via Zoom

- 1. Welcome and Introductions of Guests**
- 2. Veterans Memorial Museum:** Chip Duncan informed the group that the Civil War reenactment battles would not take place this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. They conducted a static parade for the 4th of July, which was a huge success. They will be hosting a Gambler 500 event in August, which has seen a massive number of interested individuals. The Rust of Shine car show is still planned for September.
- 3. Chehalis-Centralia Railroad and Museum:** Bill Deutscher explained that the railroad was conducting rides again with limited capacity to meet with COVID-19 regulations. The trains for the 4th of July had sold out.
- 4. Lewis County Together:** Larry McGee explained that the loss of some events have a major impact on the local economy. Lewis County Together is providing information and support to local businesses and community members. He explained that \$100,000 had been received in grant money to be distributed to small businesses affected by the epidemic. Forty applications had been received so far, but he encouraged businesses to apply. The application deadline is Monday, July 13th. Commissioner Bobby Jackson informed the group that the County is excited about Lewis County Together and expressed his appreciation of the level of expertise being volunteered within the program.
- 5. Committee Reports:**
 - a. Executive Director's Report:** Annalee Tobey thanked Meri Hamre for her work with the grant group. She informed the group that the Experience Chehalis website included a banner that linked to information regarding Lewis County Together. Annalee Tobey will be attending a leadership conference via Zoom.
 - b. Economic Restructuring:** Nicole Sampson explained that she continued to interim as chair of the economic restructuring committee. The digital marketing grants are under review to ensure firm rules apply to the grants. She invited anyone interested to attend the economic restructuring committee meetings.
 - c. Design:** Emily Von Flotow informed the group that art projects had resumed. Four more electrical boxes will be painted, four more murals will be completed, three more art benches have been commissioned, and the coloring books are coming along well.
 - d. Organization:** Nicole Sampson explained that the strategic plan has been completed and they will be introducing it to the group soon.
- 6. Other Updates/Announcements/Good of the Order**
 - a.** Michael Ervin explained that Columbia Bank is putting on a program using the proceeds from the PPE project. The program is looking for businesses that are in need of

assistance because of the COVID-19 pandemic. He asked that members of the group pass along the information.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 A.M. by Nicole Sampson.

Next meeting is Friday, August 14th at 8:30 A.M. via Zoom

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