

Chehalis Community Renaissance Team (CCRT)
November 13, 2020
Meeting Notes

Nicole Sampson called the meeting to order at 8:34 A.M. with the following members present: Jill Anderson, Andrea Culletto, Susan DeLaire, Bill Deutscher, Chip Duncan, David James, Daniel Murray, Brandon Rakes, Nicole Sampson, Laura Six, Annalee Tobey, Brian Wilkins, and Shane Wood.

Meeting was held via Zoom

- 1. Welcome and Introductions of Guests**
- 2. City of Chehalis:** Jill Anderson provided an update regarding activities within the City of Chehalis. The renovation of Recreation Park and Penny Playground is almost complete. Due to COVID-19 closures, the park is unable to reopen to the public. The City is working with Lewis County, the City of Centralia, and Riverside Fire Authority to complete a 9-1-1 system feasibility study, which is now approximately two thirds complete. Property for a new fire station has been purchased on State Avenue. Jill Anderson explained that the article in the Chronicle regarding the budget had been incorrect; she briefly informed the group of federal fund restrictions and general fund expenditures. The City is no longer working with Rich Development for airport property development; discussion with a new developer for the property has begun.
- 3. Twin Transit:** Andrea Culletto explained that Twin Transit had fixed bus routes and had added paratransit services within the regular bus routes (now called Lift). DARTS, standing for dial-a-ride Twin Transit, is working to provide transportation for elderly citizens in Chehalis or Centralia. Electric busses have been ordered and should be delivered in December; these busses will create a connection between Centralia and Olympia.
- 4. Women United:** Andrea Culletto and Annalee Tobey explained that Women United was a affinity group derived from United Way. Though many activities had been cancelled during the year, Women United was able to partner with the Visiting Nurses to provide professional clothing to women in the area through the Career Closet. Annalee Tobey informed the group that a news release should be out soon regarding Women United's Coats for Kids program. This year, the program will focus on children from Winlock and White Pass school districts. Donation drop locations are located throughout Lewis County, including the Chamber of Commerce, Dawn's Delectables, Cedar Village, IGA, Cardinal Glass, and many other locations.
- 5. Chehalis-Centralia Railroad and Museum:** Bill Deutscher informed the group that the Polar Express trains were now selling tickets. Renovations to the deluxe car have been completed and has been added to the current train rides.
- 6. Veterans Museum:** Chip Duncan told the group about the static Veterans Day parade on November 11th, which was well attended.
- 7. Committee Reports:**
 - a. Executive Director's Report:** Annalee Tobey informed the group that applications for the small business grant program utilizing funding from the Chehalis CARES Community Program had been accepted and ten applicants had been awarded grant funding. 2020 B&O Tax donations have been completed and preparations for 2021 donations have begun.

- b. **Promotions:** Nicole Sampson explained that the promotions chair remained vacant and encouraged anyone interested in the position to let her know. Among many other projects, the promotions committee is working to spotlight local businesses on the website and Facebook page.
 - c. **Economic Restructuring:** Nicole Sampson informed the group that the chair for the economic restructuring committee is vacant as well. She explained that the Chehalis Coworks had been an idea from the economic restructuring committee and encouraged anyone with ideas to please let the committees know.
 - d. **Design:** Annalee Tobey explained that many projects for the 2020 year are wrapping up. Projects included murals, painting of utility boxes, garbage can lids, and holiday decorations.
 - e. **Organization:** Nicole Sampson shared that Terry Harris has joined CCRT's board of directors. She explained that the organization committee provides support to the board, helps with fundraising and volunteer recruitment, and creates policies and procedures.
- 8. Other Updates/Announcements/Good of the Order**
- a. None.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 A.M. by Nicole Sampson.

Next meeting is Friday, December 11th at 8:30 A.M. via Zoom

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