

Chehalis Community Renaissance Team
Public Meeting
Friday 1/14/2022 8:00 am

Attendees: Michael Ervin, David James, Lindsey Senter, Jenny Collins, Justine Pense, Isabel Vander Stoep, Bill Deutscher, Jill Anderson, Annalee Tobey, Kate McDougall, Jason King, Julie McDonald- Zander, Brandon Rakes

David offered welcome and lead meeting in place of Brian who was called to an emergency.

Jenny Collins - Chehalis Foundation

- Foundation is focused on two major projects. The first is a tennis facility and wrestling facility located near the elementary school. They hope to receive \$850,000 in state legislative support. They are partnering with many groups.
- The foundation is also planning the renovation of the WF West baseball fields, which is a \$1.6 million project. \$1 million is already raised. These projects do include funds for maintenance.
- Jenny would like to talk to CCRT at a later date about the success of the Student Achievement Initiative. Annalee and Jenny will coordinate.

Jill Anderson - City of Chehalis Manager

- Jill mentioned and applauded the partnership with the Chehalis Foundation.
- Kate McDougall was sworn in as the newest member of the Chehalis City Council this month.
- Councilman Ketchum has been appointed Mayor.
- There is an opening for a seat on the City Council and applications are due February 2 at 5:00 pm.
- The recent flooding caused the worst damage on 3rd Street and Chehalis Ave, Shoreline and Louisiana. The city is doing an assessment of local areas affected by the flooding. People who need help should visit the Lewis County website for more information. The City will be holding cleanup events in the future at city parks.
- City is closing out several major projects. The work on Pacific Avenue is finished with only streetlight installation remaining. Streetlights were backordered. The fire station site is being developed near the intersection of Chamber of Commerce Way and State Avenue.

David - Promotion Committee

- Local postcards project in process featuring local artists
- Valentine's Day shopping hunt will take place next month
- 2022 brochure creation in process. The 2022 calendar will be available on the website.
- Posted 4 blog posts over the holidays featuring shopping/dining local. Many more blogs planned for 2022.
- Rebranding effort is moving forward and will hopefully be announced in February

Economic Restructuring - Annalee for Laura Six

- New budget has been approved.
- Chehalis Coworks was profitable in 2021 which allows us to continue serving the community with the space.
- Closed the year with eight facade grant awards.
- Digital Marketing Grants are also still available. 75% match up to \$2500 on digital ads and websites.
- Safety and Security Grant coming this year, helping secure local businesses.

Design - Annalee for Emily von Flotow

- First meeting of the year held last week
- 1 mural planned for this year on former Star Tavern. Others are yet to be determined.
- Art Walk in coming in September/October
- Litter pick-up, street sweeping services will continue in 2022.

Organization - Annalee for Michele Gallagher

- Organization Committee is gearing up for B&O tax donation season. This program allows local businesses to direct their tax dollars to their local community. Businesses receive a 75% tax credit the next year on toward their B&O taxes. The available state cap of funds is higher this year which means CCRT has the ability to raise more money this year towards projects enhancing and promoting Chehalis growth.