

FRIDAY WITH *Friends*

Date: March 11, 2022 via Zoom

Attendees: Annalee Tobey, Brian Wilkins, Larry McGee, Lindsey Senter, Jason Mattson, Laura Six, Andrew Hunziker, David Hartz, Tony Ketchum, Brandon Rakes, Bill Deutscher, Susan DeLaire, Fionna Velasquez, Jill Anderson, Joanne Schwartz, Michael Ervin, Sarah Price

Brandon Rakes – Chehalis-Centralia Airport

- A car wash will be going in by Sonic Drive-In
- The Honda dealership going in across from Home Depot was on hold due to weather. Expected to restart work soon.
- WSECU will be located near Home Depot
- Amendment to electric car charging contract to remove exclusivity.
- Airport Operations:
 - Upgrade to the fueling system is taking place now
 - FARP exercise took place last week
 - Search and rescue ran exercises on site

Joanne Schwartz – Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum

The train's operations are currently on hold because their insurance company did not renew their policy. The organization is currently seeking insurance for onsite activities and is working with a team to have the insurance reinstated later this year. If anyone is interested, they have an excess of Easter candy purchased for the Easter train that was cancelled. Four pound bags are available for \$5. Repair of the rail line due to January's flood damage is underway with possible support from FEMA.

David James - Promotion Committee

- Branding effort is wrapping up.
- Postcard project is continuing with designs chosen and local businesses will be approached about purchasing cards by month end.
- ChehalisFest upcoming July 30th and meetings/planning has begun.

Laura Six - Economic Vitality Committee

- 3 facade grants and 1 digital marketing grant are underway this year.
- New safety and security grants are now available. The grants will cover 75% of expenses related to outdoor lighting, locks, and security cameras up to \$1,000.
- Annalee and Laura are attending monthly seminars hosted by Rural Development Initiative with other main street communities focused on economic vitality programs. It will be a year-long commitment.

Annalee Tobey on Behalf of Emily Von Flotow - Design Committee

- 2-4 murals are being planned for the year
- We are working with the city on planting of spring flowers.
- Lewis County is working on building a downtown campus for their services. We have been asked us to be involved with a large mural on the side of the historic Royal Bakery/Star Tavern building. Design is finalized and work will commence near the end of the summer.
- We are planning an Earth Day Cleanup on Saturday, April 23rd. It will include city wide litter pick-up and downtown cleaning.

Annalee on behalf of Michele Gallaher - Organization Committee

- B&O tax pledges are coming in and going well. We are thankful for the support and generosity of our local businesses.

Brand Announcement:

After meetings with community members and working with expert community brand consultants, CCRT will be changing our name to "Experience Chehalis". Annalee shared a brand introduction video produced by David James and narrated by David Hartz. We will present the video to city council on Monday. View: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zu0vOMs9Ysw>