

FRIDAY WITH *Friends*

MEETING NOTES

Experience Chehalis

February 9, 2024 | 8:30 a.m.

Attendees: Jessica Kinney, Michael Ervin, Brian Wilkins, Cynthia Mudge, Lindsey Senter, Jenny Collins, Terry Harris, Tony Ketchum, Jill Anderson, Katie McDougall

Note: David was unable to attend and there was an audio issue, so below is a portion of notes available from the meeting.

Chamber of Commerce - Cynthia Mudge

- Thanked Terry Harris for being a fun and festive grand marshal at the 2023 Santa Parade.

Jenny Collins - Chehalis Foundation

- They are involved in infrastructure renovation at W.F. West High School. It has recently been slowed due to weather. They are hoping to be finished with this project by the end of March.
 - They are working on the Lewis County indoor tennis and wrestling facility. It will be managed by a national tennis organization and located at 0 Bishop Road. Five courts are being built and \$3.2 million has been raised for this project. Jack State who recently passed away was the main proponent of this project as a devoted advocate to kids' tennis programs. They hope to open the facility by January 2025.
- The Chehalis Foundation might be interested in helping with improvements at Penny Playground to improve security.
- The Foundation office is currently located at the Olympic School and they are looking for a new office space. Ideally, they would like to have a board room, 2 offices, bathroom and a reception area.

Jessica Kinney - Experience Chehalis

- Design Committee
 - The committee is building their team. Anyone who is interested in becoming part of this committee should contact Annalee. This committee focus is on community beautification.

- The annual Earth Day Community Clean-up will be on April 20th. Volunteers will meet at the Lewis County Historical Museum and take part in litter pick up, weeding and cleaning projects throughout Chehalis.
- Economic Vitality Committee
 - Downtown Chehalis welcomed three new businesses in the last several weeks! Northwest Salmon Smokehouse opened at the former Bartel's location. Good Fork Nutrition and Juice opened at the corner of Market Blvd and Boistfort Street inside M&K's former expansion area. Pacific NW Axe House is opening soon on Market Boulevard inside the former Wild Soule location and its adjacent location.
- Promotion Committee
 - The historic walking tour is being reprinted with a fresh, yet historic look. Plaques will be placed at locations with the current historic plaques directing visitors to the online version of the walking tour complete with brand new narration.
 - ChehalisFest planning is underway. The committee has discussed bringing back the street dance this year and Garbe's has interest in a Friday night cruise before the event on Saturday.
 - We are working on a merchandise plan. Any ideas for Chehalis merch are welcome.
 - Website is continually updated. We are adding a "Meet" section to the website for users to locate options for events venues as well as meeting spaces.
 - Ladies Night is coming up March 9th in downtown. We have been working closely with Gemini Events on advertising and promotion as well as design for marketing materials.