



South Platte United Chamber of Commerce Minutes  
December 8, 2015  
Minden

Co-president Tom Hastings opened the meeting in Tim Anderson's absence and asked for any additions to the agenda.

Jay D. Hall gave a treasurer's report. There were some technical difficulties so it was an abbreviated report with \$14,859.49 balance in the checkbook. Dues notices need to go out to the various communities for the upcoming year. There was discussion about belonging to the State Chamber for \$350. The discussion centered on how they provide very good legislative updates and SPUCC members who would like to receive updates should send SPUCC their email addresses. When we send our dues to the State Chamber, Jay will send a note stating that the State Chamber needs to address small rural business issues better in the future. Other bills were NCTA for meal \$295 (was offset by those who paid), Office Genie \$441, and Glenwood for website hosting (two months) \$335. Dena motioned and Char seconded that we pay all bills. Motioned carried.

New Business:

Nominations for officers and positions were requested.

A slate of officers and positions were presented as follows:

Executive Board Candidates:

- President Tim Anderson, Central Ne Public Power & Irrigation Dist.
- Vice President Kevin Poppe, Great Plains Communications
- Co-Secretaries David and Marilyn Snodgrass, Hotel Orleans
- Treasurer Jay Hall, Red Cloud Community Foundation

Regional Representative Candidates:

- Eastern Regional Rep. Jeff Hofaker, Sutton City Administrator
- Central Regional Rep. Dena Beck, REAP
- Western Regional Rep. Mary Crawford NCTA

Committee Chair Candidates:

- Tourism Kelly Gewecke, NE Dept. of Economic Development
- Community Development Ashley Rice-Gerlach, NE Dept. of Economic Development
- Legislative Char Reiman, Source Gas



Dena moved that nominations cease and the slate of people presented be elected. Jay seconded the motion. Motioned carried.

There was discussion about the tours this summer and that we would go to quarterly meetings. The first meeting of 2016 will be in March with a legislative day in Lincoln in conjunction with the Tri City Chambers (Kearney, Hastings, Grand Island). Then mark your calendars and save the dates for June 14 for a housing meeting in McCook, September 13 for a tourism meeting in Red Cloud, and on December 13 for a meeting to be announced. Suggestions were for Governor Ricketts or Hank Bounds to attend the December meeting. If there are other suggestions please let the SPUCC executive committee know your ideas.

Kelly brought up a new Nebraska Tourism Cares Program that will assist communities with manpower, not money, show some love to our treasured tourism sites. There will be four projects chosen from around the state in 2016. SPUCC would like to preserve and enrich travel experiences for future generations by protecting and restoring tourism sites in the South Platte area. SPUCC would like to apply for one Nebraska Tourism Cares project each year and assist the area and we would like to start with Pioneer Village in Minden for 2016.

Jay made the motion for SPUCC to proceed with the Nebraska Tourism Cares Project and Char seconded it. Motioned carried. Kelly will get with Larry Wilcox and fill out the application.

Marge Madson, retired Minden Chamber Executive, was awarded the Super Whooper Award for 2015.

Business Meeting was adjourned.

The social hour was sponsored by Minden Exchange Bank and First Bank & Trust Company of Minden.

The meal was catered by Mason's Super Market.

Minden gave us a warm welcome from the Christmas City, who is celebrating 100 years of lights.

Speakers on the Housing panel for the very informative discussion were as follows:  
Shannon Fortney, Housing Specialist for the NE Department of Economic Development  
Lori Ferguson, Housing Specialist for South Central Economic Development District  
Cliff Mesner, Housing Developer from Central City

Submitted by Kelly Gewecke (acting secretary)

