

Friends of Twin Lakes-Minutes October 19, 2013

Board members in attendance: President John Kester, Vice President/Treasurer Anita Mason, Secretary Kelly Sweeney, Members at Large: Joan Weber and Ahmad Ghais.

John moved that minutes from the last meeting be approved, Kelly seconded and the minutes were approved as posted.

Treasurer's report: we have over \$14,000 on deposit, most of it is earmarked for the Historic District improvements.

Guest speaker was Nicole Thompson, Executive Director of Lake County Economic Development Corporation ("LCEDC").

LCEDC came about from initial efforts by the Lake County Chamber of Commerce starting in 2011. The LCEDC is a Section 501(c)(6) membership corporation selected to allow the group to participate in advocacy on behalf of its members facilitating economic development in Lake County. There are presently 16 members on the board and 56 members total. Membership rates vary from \$100 to \$5000, the amount paid determines whether you are a voting or non-voting member (the \$500 membership is the threshold for becoming a voting member). The board of directors for the LCEDC has staggered terms of service for the board of directors to ensure continuity in the operations of the organization.

Their mission is to be a catalyst for business development in Lake County, helping business owners and entrepreneurs find resources to assist in their formation and operations, as well as focusing on retaining and expanding existing businesses

Ms. Thompson is tapping into the resources and approaches used by regional and nearby organizations, such as Chaffee County Connect and the Southern Economic Development District to jump start progress for Lake County businesses with high speed broadband service, a top priority for LCEDC.

The LCEDC will be located on the bottom floor of the People's Bank where they help to serve existing or future business owners in connecting them with the resources needed, such as specialty financing for a particular business need.. We will post information on the LCEDC and a membership application with the minutes.

President's acknowledgments (the associated details for particular items are in footnotes):

Miscellaneous category of thanks and accomplishments: Kelly for drafting the fire protection letter for improved response time to southern Lake County resulting in over 50 letters sent to Commissioner Hix and Chief Dailey; FOTL banner and bumper stickers from Robert Krehbiel and Kelly; Bruce Hix's efforts in support of a fire station in southern Lake County and DOLA Grant;¹ the Brush Truck² being stationed in the Emergency Services building; Liz Dougherty for the framed Twin Lakes City Map from 1894 (we hope to hang in our meeting location); work on revisions to a lease with the Lake County school district for the Twin Lakes school house by Judy Leaming and the board of directors; Ken and Teri Holland for the park bench and fish display stand at the Red Rooster and Joan for tirelessly lining up volunteers,³ enhancing displays and maintaining the Red Rooster (including getting several topo maps, a fish display and rabbit display from the power plant which will be moved today).

¹ John, Judy, Bruce and Dan Dailey met with Christy Culp from DOLA to look at the Mineral Impact Grant to fund a fire station in southern Lake County. Judy is trying to get the grant done by December with hopes of obtaining a grant by summer. This will be much faster than elections, etc. to create a special district. At a recent 2-day grant writing seminar that John attended (and paid for), he found other smaller organizations that may be able to provide funding based upon grant applications.

² In order to operate the brush truck locally, we need 3 to 4 trained wild land fire fighters. Training is about 40 hours done in late winter, early spring and involves a qualification levels walking with loaded packs over a designated distance and time. Students study fire patterns, dig fire lines and deploy to fire protection centers.

³ (Joan noted that the 1000 decrease in visitors this year resulted from the number of days the Visitor Center was closed due to lack of volunteers),

Monetary donations for the Historic District from inactive and active Twin Lakes organizations. Thanks to Fred Woodcock, with Judy's assistance, for transferring old funds from organizations with goals consistent to ours: \$3700 from the old church fund and \$4200 from the old volunteer fire department fund. The Twin Lakes Inn donated \$1000. On a related and very happy note, **FOTL received a \$14,500 grant from History Colorado** to complete the Clarion Hotel assessment.⁴

Welcome to Twin Lakes sign: thanks to Carl and Cathy Wagner's \$1000 donation for the sign, which they still generously gave even though we didn't get it done by Memorial Day and to the Lake County Commissions for their \$500 contribution.

Other community efforts: supporting Bike-n-Build providing food and showers for bikers who build homes along this cross country trip: John and Susie Kester, Cornelia Patti, Dixie Pierce, Carl and Katie Bryant, Carolyn Abbot, Liz and James Dougherty, Barbara and Larry Marcum, John King and Anita.

Races: many thanks to Anita and Mike McHargue for their work at controlling parking and crowds during the races, along with getting volunteers to work them. Input is sought for next year on whether to continue restricting parking to only local residents, but discouraging the selling of parking spaces.

New Business:

Mail delivery issues: Frank Rooks, the BV Post Master spoke with Kelly about some of the problems with mail delivery to our area. Shortly after our mailbox units (MBUs) were installed in the Village, Frank was sent on a temporary assignment. While he was gone, the post office failed to get a labeling machine to address the forwarding accomplished from the old PO Box addresses to the new street addresses. In addition, new handlers were not trained to sort the mail at the BV post office, resulting in rushing at our MBUs. He believes that we will see a marked improvement within a few weeks. Dennis Busch and Kelly volunteered to send some test letters to local residents in a few weeks mailed from the Metro area to see if there has been improvement.

Fund raising: we really need volunteers to head up a committee or single effort at fund raising. One idea is to work with the Mining Museum to see if we can show the movie **Ghosts of the West**. It should draw a crowd larger than we would get by trying to host it in Twin Lakes and could be mutually beneficial to their organization and ours.

New sign on the other side of the Village: John with the help of Ahmad moved that we get a new sign on the other end of the Village using the same design and company, and to start working with CDOT to find a location. Wes Duran seconded the motion and it passed. Susie volunteered to work with CDOT and head this effort.

Insurance update: the board is close to getting liability insurance which is good business for us in any event, but will be required by the School District to use the school house. Special thanks to Ahmad and John for the steadfast efforts in that area.

Reverse 911 and other emergency information: we encourage members to use the Lake County website to sign up for reverse 911 alerts and provide the phone numbers where you would like to be contacted in the event of an evacuation, etc. If you want to provide further health information, such as being in a wheel chair or on oxygen, the Public Health department had forms that they maintain and preserve the privacy of that information. The registration link for 911 is: <https://signup2.tfcci.com/signup-web/login.html?token=85ad2798ab7f0356fd2dd50c4e97cd09c30ff05f> or you can get there from the home page on the Lake County website.

Announcements from the Inn: Maggie and Doug Rush thanked members for their support of the Inn. She reminded that they have a new Sunday brunch from 10-3. They will have the bar open during Bronco games and serve bar food. On Thursdays, there will be dinner and a movie for \$20, including intermission pop-corn. There are still reservations available for the Masquerade dinner and ball on October 26th, to attend just the party is \$20 per person, costumes recommended, but not required.

The next meeting will be announced for either November or, if in December, we will have it be our constructive November meeting.

⁴ First, huge thanks to John for his diligence in completing the grant and lining up the architect, etc. Second, following the assessment, we will need to seek further grants to refurbish the Clarion for the enjoyment of present and future generations.