

To: Chamber Board Members  
Re: Minutes for 4/2//15 Board Meeting

I. Call to Order: 7:38 AM by Sharon Smith (both Vallerie V. and Barbara G. were not in attendance). In Attendance: Sharon Smith, Marianne Graham and Candee Rinde. We missed Vallerie Vickers, Barbara Graham and Janice Reynolds. Two board member slots are unfilled.

II. Agenda: Sharon added an item to New Business – Letter to the Governor. Marianne G. made 1<sup>st</sup> motion and Sharon S. made 2<sup>nd</sup> motion to accept the agenda with the addition. Agenda approved.

III. Approval of Minutes from April 2 meeting: Marianne G. made 1<sup>st</sup> motion and Sharon S. made 2<sup>nd</sup> motion to accept. Minutes approved.

#### IV. Old Business

1. By-laws Revision Marianne gave a background of where we have gotten in the process and how we have gotten there – with joint efforts by Barbara G. and Marianne G.. We then went through the proposed revision of the By-laws line by line to make any further changes or additions. We also reviewed the separate Dues – Rate and Schedule. Marianne will take the changes made during the meeting, revise the documents and email to all the Board Members for additional comments.

2. Vote and Approval of new By-laws The final version will be voted on by the Board at the May meeting and will be taken to the General Membership at the upcoming May meeting for final vote and approval. Candee will email the final proposed version to the general Membership prior to the May meeting so there is time for thoughtful preparation of the membership.

#### V. New Business:

1. Economic Development and Small Business Commission Sharon presented this opportunity for positive Chamber involvement and interaction with the Village. The Village of Cimarron has an Ordinance (#270), the “Economic Development Plan,” on the books which has not been implemented to date. It gives the Village an opportunity to comply with anti-donation laws when bringing new jobs and growth to the Village. In other words, it allows the Village to offer incentives to new businesses. An Economic Development Organization or Commission is needed to make recommendations and funnel opportunities to the Village Council for the body to act on. Currently the ordinance reads that the organization “means the Chamber of Commerce” rather than any other group. Sharon spoke on our behalf at the last Council meeting, stating that “Yes, we are willing to act in that capacity.” Sharon makes the point that this activity is aligned with our purpose as the Chamber. Separate members from other groups could also potentially join in. There is a special Council meeting scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup> to review this issue further. Sharon would like to be the Team Leader for this effort. The Board then voted on whether to pursue our relationship with the Village as the Economic Development Committee to fulfill the objectives of this ordinance. Marianne made 1<sup>st</sup> motion to pursue and Sharon made 2<sup>nd</sup> motion to pursue this opportunity. Sharon will make a presentation at the next meeting on how to best proceed.

2. Public Letter to Governor Sharon presented a letter written to the Governor of New Mexico making a public request for a special Legislative Session to be held during the Summer of 2015 for the purpose of addressing Infrastructure Funding. This letter is intended for all interested individuals to sign/submit, and we are also putting it out to our general Chamber membership due to its importance for the Village’s projects to go forward.

#### VI. Team Reports

##### 1. Finance Report - Sharon Smith

Sharon reported that we do not have the March financial reports yet, but presented February’s numbers. She explained that the Year to Date numbers are important in seeing the whole picture and questions why the Net Income for YTD at the end of February shows a -\$16,000 balance. She will pose this question to Michlyn, our bookkeeper, when she comes this Friday. Sharon is still working on the effort to align our General Budget Accounts with the QuickBook Accounts so that we can stay on budget. There are other

past discrepancies to clear up, including the accidental spending of Explore the Arts funds after moving them from the savings account to the checking account.

Sharon also stated that the Lodger's Tax Board has not been acted on or approved by the Village. She asked Candee to put this in her Ex. Secretary's Report of the Chamber to the Village Council. Since this is a major Income item for us, it will be essential to have a voice and an advocate for the future.

Sharon is also working on our Chamber Budget for the upcoming year. At the May meeting, she is asking for Team Leaders to submit a budget request to the Treasurer so that an itemized plan can be developed for what money to spend on what. Candee will also make a study for historical Visitor Center expenditures and submit. The final proposed Budget will then be taken to the General Membership meeting in May for approval.

2. Events Report – Janice Reynolds

Janice was not present at the meeting – no report was given.

3. Membership Report – Marianne Graham

Marianne reported that progress is being made in drafting a revised version of our By-laws and Dues – Rate and Schedule. We want these to align with and support our new Vision/Purpose Statement.

VII. Executive Secretary's Report – Candee Rinde

Candee reviewed the need to hire additional help at the Visitor Center for the summer months. This person will be an adult, minimum 18 years old, and will have responsibility for the Visitor Center when Candee is off. Candee works five days a week (Tuesday – Saturday) and Sunday afternoons and Mondays need to be covered. She also reported that the leaky toilet at the Visitor Center has been fixed. We are asking landscape contractor Jeremy Rickliffs of Naturescapes to prepare a formal Proposal for repairs to the deck and wood stairs to the deck. The gravel driveway needs some additional gravel, and we discussed approaching the NM DOT to purchase some fines. Candee reported that work continues on small improvement projects - painting, hanging curtains, etc. She also needs to order Cimarron/Philmont books, Val Vidal maps and Carson National Forest maps. The stock is sold out and we need more to sell for profit during the summer months.

VIII. Other Items/Announcements

1. Schedule of upcoming Board Meetings/Chamber Functions:

The ribbon cutting for the new Rocks, Ore, Minerals shop will be held on Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 PM.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM, St. James Hotel.

The next General Membership meeting was scheduled for later the same day, but has been moved to Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Candee will check with Mindy at the Village to see if we can use the Council Chambers.

We will vote on a) By-laws/Membership and Dues changes, b) Filling vacancies on the Board (will take vote on slate of candidates) and c) Budget. Be present if you want to vote!

Meeting was adjourned at 9:24 AM by Sharon Smith.

Respectfully submitted: Marianne Graham, Secretary of the Chamber Board  
May 6, 2015