



Board Meeting Minutes | Friday, Jan. 17, 2020

I. Consent Agenda

Quorum establishment: Anne Thomas (present in-person), serving for Justin Saunders (present telephonically), called the meeting to order with a quorum at 8:06 a.m.

Board members in attendance: Sam Dinges, Anne Thomas, Kevin Gunnip, Lucas Parker, Rob Foxley, Dustin Clark, Lucas Parker, Steve Solari, Cassi Campbell, Justin Saunders (via telephone)

Absent: DanaLyn Dalrymple (excused) and Kevin Gunnip (excused); Dustin Clark (unexcused)

Staff in attendance: Ailis Vann, Executive Director

It was moved and passed to approve the agenda with the following amendment: Add luggage tag raffle for Mat-Su Convention and Visitors Bureau under Discussion & Action Item D.

It was moved and passed to approve the December 2019 minutes.

II. Persons to be heard: None.

III. Reports

A. President's Report: Justin was available by text and phone for assistance.

B. Treasurer's Report: In DanaLyn's absence, Ailis reviewed the report. PEDDA paid \$5000 towards the Friday Fling at the end of 2019. GPCC needs a sponsor for the music series for Friday Fling. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

C. Executive Director's Report:

1. Ailis attended the Mat-Su Health Foundation meeting for non-profits with legislators on Jan. 14. It was composed primarily of nonprofits who discussed local substance abuse and mental health issues and possible state funding and support. Ailis enjoyed learning about the nonprofits that provide these important services in the Mat-Su Valley.

2. Ailis will be attending the Western Association of Chamber Executives conference in Portland on Feb. 5-6 and will report on this conference at the next board meeting.

3. Upcoming events:

a) Fireworks next Saturday, Jan. 25

b) 203 Kombucha One Year Anniversary Celebration: Feb. 1. Ailis will discuss with them the possibility of featuring their products at our annual meeting.

c) Annual Meeting: Feb. 19 at Mat-Su Senior Center. 75-80 members are expected to attend and Ailis is working on obtaining the caterer.



4. Ailis discussed the upcoming speaker schedule and the possibility of inviting Maple Springs leadership to speak.
5. New sponsorships: Alaska Executive Search and Granite Construction
6. New memberships: We average about two new members per month. Ailis revised the member application and sent it out. We should reach out to Alaska Backcountry.

D. Events Committee Report:

1. Midsummer Garden and Art Faire: We will be holding committee meetings once a month on the second Monday of the month. Randi is working on the application for the Art Faire. We will use the special events permit for the Faire because we can do five a year. The board discussed the issue of sound competition in downtown Palmer with the various music venues.
2. The Events Committee also changed the hours of Friday Fling to 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and will schedule two musical acts.

E. Real Estate Committee Report:

1. Lucas reported for the committee and stated that there are multiple options for the Chamber office:
 - a) Stay where Chamber office is currently
 - b) Purchase a lot here in Palmer (but this option does not appear to be financially feasible)
 - c) Take over the lease at the Depot from the City of Palmer. This option should be explored in concert with City leadership. In the past, it was determined that an expensive storage facility was required for this to happen. Rob will look into other options for the Depot to maximize space and use funds efficiently. Lucas will work on the accounting details for the rental of that space. The board will visit the space and further discuss the issue. Rob, Sam, Steve, Cassi, Justin were added to the Real Estate Committee to provide special focus to this issue.

IV. Discussion & Action Items

- A. Special Events Investment Account: \$30,000 was originally invested and we now have a balance of \$51,003. We have \$37,615 in the special events bank account (Colony Days and Colony Christmas only). The board discussed putting some of it in an investment account but a clear goal needs to be established first, with a list of items to be purchased with the funds. Sam advised that GPCC use the funds for specific purchases rather than sitting on money in an investment account, or spend the funds on community grants or scholarships. This topic is tabled until further information is available.
- B. The Annual Meeting will be held Feb. 19. At the meeting, membership will elect board members and GPCC will present awards.
 1. Board members up for election/reelection:



- a) Anne (incumbent)
 - b) DanaLyn's seat open
 - c) Dustin's seat (incumbent)
2. Awards: We would like to offer other awards besides the Pioneer Award. Add a business of the year/member of the year award for a business that is making Palmer a better place. Language will be developed for these additional awards.
- C. Website update: We need to look at proposals and the board needs to decide whether we want a strong website that provides functionality for staff or for users/members. This discussion is tabled until after Ailis attends the Chamber Executives conference in Portland in early February.
- D. MSCVB needs a gaming permit for the luggage tag raffle. It was moved, seconded and approved for them to use the GPCC gaming permit.
- V. Round Table/Board Member Comments: None.
- VI. Next Board Meeting: Monthly Board Meeting, Friday, February 21, at 8:00 a.m.
- VII. Adjournment: There being no further business to address, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 a.m. per Anne. Motion passed.

Humbly submitted:

Carin Meyer

Board Secretary