

## **Cascade Chamber of Commerce (COC)**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, Aug 27th, 2024, Noon, at Cascade Community & Senior Center, 400 N School St.**

**Meeting Attendance:** 9 in person

**Meeting Start:** 12:14pm

**Meeting Minutes:** Kathy motion to approve 8/13/24 meeting minutes, Joe second. All in favor. Motion Passed.

**Treasurer Report:** No change from last meeting in the general account. Motion to Roll over CD by Joe, seconded by Kathy.

**Secretary:** No report.

**Office, Communications, & Media: Julie**

The Arc is scheduled to pick up residual Spring Fling yard sale items on Tuesday, 3 September (including pick up of 4H and Community Center items too). Need to fill a 19 ft truck with household items . Taking last minute donations by Friday, 30 August at 3:00pm for the (no furniture or big appliances).

Email with instructions for 2024 Cascade Chamber Annual Award Recognition Program coming this week. Nomination instructions due 10 September, with ballots sent out by 17 September and due back to the COC by 24 September. Voting will take place during Chamber meeting on Tuesday, 8 October, with awards handed out during Hog Wild Celebration on 19 October.

**Open Issues:**

**Cascade Fire Community Fund - Krispy Kreme Fundraiser Proceeds Donation:** Matt had a last minute scheduling conflict and will reschedule the check presentation.

**Hog Wild Celebration: Kathy**

She found a sponsor for the purchase of the pig for the event. Kathy is coordinating dessert dash, raffle prizes, and a silent auction. Tickets will be \$25 per person. Tickets will be on sale at Cascade Auto, Cascade Hardware, and Umpqua Bank.

**Cascade Waterfall Project**

Local company has agreed to maintain the motor, but will not clean or skim the pond. Julie has added cleaning the pond to her weekly tasks as office assistant. Attendee suggested having an agitator installed to help clear debris as needed, minimizing need to constantly be cleaned by hand and help maintain the pump system. Additional suggestion to talk to the City to inquire about additional help from Public Works.

**Open Floor:**

The funds the chamber receives via Idaho Travel Council (ITC) program for marketing have proven successful in getting folks to come to the Cascade area. Now, we are at the point where we don't want to exceed capacity for serving visitors. The time has come to prioritize overall business environment and health. How do we foster the health of the businesses in the community and increase consumer traffic into our businesses? The chamber also needs to figure out who and how suggestions/extra duties will be carried out. Julie expressed she is tapped (9 hours per week) maintaining current responsibilities.

If some local businesses don't feel like the Chamber does anything to support them, how can we change that? For businesses, interviewing the owner(s) to learn more about them and their business, their niche, and how they are different from other businesses in town while still playing a role within the community.

Suggestions included creating welcome packets for both new businesses and new residents. Welcome packets for new businesses/residents would educate them on local businesses, resources, etc. The Chamber website has comprehensive information on local businesses, so what format is needed to reach a wider audience? Additional suggestions to help solve this issue are to on-board a liaison to help the Chamber coordinate that marketing, creating a strategic/business plan during the slow time for businesses so they can provide input, and requesting additional funding from the City or grants.

Suggestion for implementing a monthly, one-page write-up on a business and posting it in other businesses throughout town where customers can see it is a good way to show business owners supporting other business owners. Recommendation to hold Nov 12th chamber meeting at 6pm at the Library to discuss future plans/options for Business plan, Strategic planning, a 20 hrs per wk employee paid by grant, Grant writing help.

**Cascade Public Library: Maria** Library's addition will be finished in the beginning of October. We will have a grand opening.

**Lake Cascade State Parks: Blake & Zach**

Blake announced he is leaving the Cascade area for a State Parks position in Challis. Zach Grogan is the new LCSP point of contact, 208-866-5240, [zack.grogan@idpr.idaho.gov](mailto:zack.grogan@idpr.idaho.gov). The proposed Tamarack marina project NEPA and impact study process ongoing. Local Native American groups recently submitted a request for an Ethnographic Study. The City contacted LCSP advising future access to City water for campgrounds outside city limits might be impacted due to increased overall water usage.

**Valley County Sheriff:** Be safe out there. Lots of fires. Stay informed on area closures, enroll in Valley County Code Red notification <https://www.co.valley.id.us/CompleteEmergencyNotificationandAlerting>

Next meeting Tuesday, September 10, 2024, location TBD.

Thank you.