

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

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, August 13, 6pm, at Checkpoint Restaurant, Hotel NoBo**

**Meeting Attendance:** 25 in person

**Meeting Start:** 6:15pm

**Meeting Minutes:** Scotty motion to approve 7/9/24 meeting minutes, Troy second. All in favor. Motion Passed.

**Treasurer Report: Pam**

Chking: \$2,840.60; Money Market \$13,142.45; CD \$15,387.81; 74 paid members (\$9,270.00). Motion by Joe to accept treasurer report. Brian second. All in favor. Motion passed.

**Secretary:** No report.

**Office, Communications & Media:** No report.

**Open issues:**

**Cascade Chamber Fundraising Report 2021-2024 Overview.**

Attendees provided with 2021-2024 Fundraising Outcome Report (Attachment 1). Group reviewed report. Group agreed fundraising events currently not meeting our revenue needs. Group suggested we adapt and focus on two main annual fundraising events. Another suggestion included providing outline for sponsorship needs, volunteer needs, and incorporating a sponsorship tier level structure reflecting monetary and in-kind options the businesses can support.

**What does it take to successfully host a community wide event?**

Meeting attendees expressed that the 6pm evening meeting time was better for them and perhaps the chamber should consider rotating monthly meeting times, holding one at Noon and one evening meeting per month so everyone has a chance to attend.

Group feedback included - Volunteers, communication, effective marketing, non-conflicting events, and advanced planning. Several attendees expressed that many folks feel overwhelmed when asked to help with event planning and execution. Suggestion that we create a "needs outline" with specific tasks the people can commit to ahead of time for better planning. Create an assignment list people can commit to ahead of time. What about a volunteer coordinator?

On a positive note, all present concurred we have improved in the area of setting dates for events and getting word out sooner. For example, we are advertising upcoming events taking place between now into November and December.

Discussion around how to get more folks involved in event planning and execution. Suggestions included creating incentive programs within business to promote volunteering for the COC. Incorporating a competition with employees to see who can sell the most tickets for a COC event. Come up with incentives for participation (i.e. Whichever business enlists most participation wins and gets one year dues free for COC membership).

Have announcers do a better job of recognizing sponsors during fundraiser events. Do a bulk mailer to all Cascade addressees asking for donations/support (this could get 2nd homeowners engaged) - Scott Felton, Press in the Pines is a good point of contact for bulk mailers. Resume use of the firecracker donation containers set out in businesses around town for folks to insert donations for fireworks display. Have the chamber set up a venmo account, create a QR code directing folks to account to make donations. Have a "things to do task list sign-up sheet" for volunteers to help at the chamber office (i.e. making phone calls, writing letters, sending letters, grant writing, etc. to promote COC events and collect donations).

Ann at Hotel NoBo stated that their company has a mechanism in place for employees to volunteer in the community. Ann stated perhaps Hotel NoBo can provide more volunteer help.

### **Open Floor -**

Hog Wild (Oct 19th) is our next annual fundraiser. Kathy Hull agreed to take lead on event planning. Kathy will be contacting chamber members for assistance and support. Melanie Brassfield will reach out to businesses and collect auction/raffle items.

Next chamber meeting will be at Noon, Tues, Aug 27th at Cascade Community & Senior Center.

Adjourned: 7:37pm