

**Austin Chamber of Commerce**  
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**[www.austinnevada.com](http://www.austinnevada.com)**  
**Minutes**  
**December 7, 2017**

**Board Members present:**

Ray Williams Jr, Dee Helming, Frank Whitman and Charlie Vaughn

**Board Members absent:** Kara Lenox

**Members present:** Robyn Veach, Patsy Waits, USFS

**Guests: none**

**Open Meeting:** 10:05 am

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Frank Whitman.

**Public comment for items not covered on the agenda:**

A recent article in Nevada Rancher highlighted Spencer Hot Springs as one of the five best hot springs in Nevada. The Austin Health Clinic will re-open March 1, 2018, Rural Health is the contracted provider. Nevada and Utah are currently in competition for new Geo-therm builds, it was requested that The Chamber submit a letter of support to Fallon, Nevada in their bid for the project.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

Moved by Frank Whitman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Waits, motion carried.

**Approval of November Minutes:**

Moved by Ray Williams, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Frank Whitman motion carried.

**Present Financial report for approval:**

Moved Frank Whitman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Waits, motion carried.

**New Bills Payment/Approval:**

Ratify the agenda to reflect the following: Reimbursement to Dee Helming of \$265 for the purchase of 30 turkeys for the upcoming Turkey Raffle and, payment of \$378 to Farmers Insurance for the annual Workers Comp insurance policy. Moved by Patsy Waits, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Frank Whitman, motion carried.

**Office Report:**

Robyn provided a membership update; reporting that we currently have 39 members, including new members Kingston Health Clinic and Lucky Spur Saloon. Robyn and Dee attended the recent Governors Summit on Tourism in Las Vegas. Report to follow under Old Business.

**Overview of Correspondence:**

None

**Scoping letters from USFS & BLM:**

BLM: School Program, Gold Park, Raven Fire remediation, roadside fire breaks, secure rural school, Land Speed Record 2018-Eureka. Job Recruitment, two positions, notice to be posted in the Austin Post Office.

USFS: Notice of Intent to submit an amendment on the sage grouse environmental impact study, due Jan 5, 2018. Information collection request, due Jan 22, 2018.

**Guest Speaker:**

None.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **www.austinnevada.com:**

Robyn is researching receipt of payment of the grant reimbursement request for our annual web maintenance invoice with Charter Advertising, the \$4800 request for payment was submitted in August.

### **PET:**

The next PET meeting will be held in Fallon at the Old Post Office on December 18, 2018, Frank Whitman, Patsy Waits, Dee Helming and Robyn Veach will be attending. Dee attended the recent TAQ meeting, Austin grant requests have been approved, approval letters will arrive soon.

### **Austin Planning:**

Federal PLUAC voted up Master Plan, no bike trails mentioned in plan.

### **Food Bank:**

No report.

### **Geothermal updates:**

No update.

### **New marketing ideas:**

Robyn proposed having The Chamber host an Art & Wine event as a future fundraiser. Art & Wine events have recently become a popular social event, the recent Boards & Brews event hosted at a brewery in Battle Mountain was a huge success and received great reviews. Robyn will do more research and propose a Spring event.

### **Vets Memorial:**

The statue and stone have arrived in Austin. But it is currently too cold to work with the stone. The dedication is planned for Memorial Day 2018.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Grants:**

Dee attended the recent TAQ meeting and reported that The Chamber's grant requests have been approved; the grant is for the reprint of Austin tourist materials. A motion was made to submit a grant request to replace cemetery trees that have been removed in recent years. Dee and Patsy will work with Lisa Taylor. Moved by Frank Whitman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patsy Waits, motion carried.

### **Bike Trail Maintenance**

Frank Whitman reported that both the Bike Trail and Crest Trail grants that The Chamber supported through letters, have been approved.

### **Audit:**

The audit will resume after the holidays; Robyn has communicated with Grace about completing the project.

### **Nativity:**

Turkeys were purchased at .68 cents per pound, all 30 turkeys are chilling in Poncho's freezers. Two more volunteers are needed for the Live Nativity; Inn Keeper and Angle. Robyn continues to promote the event on Facebook, volunteers are needed to bring cookies for the Turkey Raffle/Community Gathering directly following the pageant.

### **Highway 50 Stickers/Austin Stickers:**

This project is on hold.

### **Governors Summit on Tourism:**

Robyn and Dee felt the summit was a huge success, meeting with the media from other countries and being able to promote the attributes of Austin was a great experience. The Nevada Film Office had an excellent breakout session; Robyn plans on registering Austin as a possible filming destination. We will work on 3-4 Day itineraries, to use to promote Austin in the upcoming tourist season and to use on austinnevada.com.

**Wells Fargo Checking and Savings Accounts:**

The November 6, 2017 meeting minutes showing the updated authorized signer list for both the checking and savings accounts, has been submitted to Wells Fargo. Frank, Patsy, Dee and Robyn will meet with Wells Fargo-Fallon on December 18, 2017 to complete the process to comply current bank requirements.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Elections:**

Election for the current year Board Members was held, a motion was made on the following positions:

President-Charlie Vaughn

Vice President-Frank Whitman

Treasurer-Dee Helming

Secretary-On hold

Moved by Frank Whitman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Charlie Vaughn, motion carried.

**Community Highway Signs:**

Ray Williams has been in contact with Wade Barton regarding a quote on new Bike Trail signs on either end of Austin, Wade has submitted a quote of \$800 per sign. Ray made a motion that The Chamber submit a grant in the amount of \$1600 to replace the bike trail signs, during the next grant cycle. Moved by Patsy Waits, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ray Williams, motion carried.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY AND AREA:**

The recent Women's CCW class, organized by The Chamber was a huge success. There is enough interest to organize more classes in the new year.

The dirt bank behind the Episcopal Church is in desperate need of repair; Phil Marshall has committed up to a \$5000 match, for funds raised for this project. Dee & Kip Helming will be donating equipment time, labor and a monetary donation. Other community members have made commitments as well.

**PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ANY ITEM NOT COVERED ON THE AGENDA:**

**Adjournment of Meeting:** @ 11:30am motioned by Patsy Waits, and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Frank Whitman, motion carried

Signed  
Robyn Veach