

Salida Business Alliance Minutes

10.3.19

Attendance

Allie Stevens	Monarch Mountain	Jan Wondra	Ark Valley voice
Deborah Fields	DFields Deisgn	Pip Conrad	First Street Flooring
Merrell Bergin	Hively Block	Lori Roberts	Chamber
Donna Cole	Kal Toys	Wendell Pryor	CCEDC
Taylor Summers	Ark Valley Voice	Diesel Post	City of Salida
Vickie Sue Vigil	Mountain Mail	Linda Richey	Chaffee Printing
Corrine Fowler	Good Business of Colorado	Nicole Balaun	Su Casa! Furniture
Jim Balaun	Su Casa! Furniture		

Start Time: 8:33

- Donna: We're going to go ahead and get started. Vickie Sue hurt her arm so she will not be here today. Corrine will be post postponing her presentation because of everything that is happening with the fire. Go ahead and read through the minutes.
- Merrell: Move to approve
- Deb: Second.
- Nicole: Started off with \$15,714. 1 renewal. Things are starting to happen with calendars, and they are selling quickly. We donated \$300 toward the fireworks for Parade of Lights. Postcards are in the works. Renewed the post office fees. Ended the month \$1504.09.
- Pip: Motion to approve
- Deb: Second.
- Deb: Our next SBA meeting will be about google analytics. I know that the chamber is slammed.
- Merrell: We should make it clear that people know when your sign in, you are opting in.
- Diesel: The Montrose city people came and that seemed to go well. If you ever have anyone that you are courting to bring business to the county, we are offering a bus tour. It gives the rural flare and shows off downtown
- Merrell: Maybe we should offer this once a month and publish it.
- Diesel: I think it's great to have that way to sell Salida. The winter rec guide is going to have a feature on all the parks. We have a few things to talk to the tree board about. There are funds that are mainly used for planting. The watering is definitely an issue because there is no irrigation. We'll be ultra-sounding the trees. As much support we can get for the trees the better. You may have noticed we lost a bunch of trees with the office wave project. Some of those trees had created a pocket that homeless people were living in, so that will be gone now. There is a lot of junk in the river right now, but it is being talked about.
- Nicole: There are a lot of springs flowing over the trail behind the climbing wall. And it's creating ice over it. We had adopted that section and will not be renewing because the liability keeps me up at night.
- Diesel: Anything in a park or a trail is now under my supervision. We're working out that change. Adopt a trail and Trail Ambassadors have been crucial for information about their section. I'm trying to develop a tool where you could upload a photo. This would be a great group in the future to roll this out to and it would be a good way for issues like this one to share that kind of information. The way the budget works is that it is my job to prioritize which spots need money. There is not a specific dollar amount per park. We put \$20,000 into that section last year but it needs a lot of work and that money this year went to Office Wave. Maybe we need to change that system, but I'm still learning. Right now, I need the community to go to City council and make these requests.
- Merrell: On your table there are some postcards to give some information to city council about what we want as a community. I am the treasurer elect for the council and there is budget money for certain things. But if you feel strongly about something. Please let us know. We appreciate you being open a candid about the issues you face with things like this
- Wendel: This group should be the one to bring up issues like this.
- Diesel: I welcome guidance. S mountain needs a lot of work. We know it's a draw and that rain has washed it out. We also can talk about signage and this is a good group to talk about economic development. We also have a lodging tax and the city had allocated that money for soaking pools and we ceased it this week. It would have offered a lot. There

were 8 different plans that the city has payed for that have not happened. If someone can come back with the a dramatically lower price, we'll have to scale down or wait.

Lori: Were still busy. We've been trying to get the word out about the fire and where to go to get information. There were people asking me if they should stay in town or leave. Visitor are still coming and want to know if its safe. It was a weird day. There we're people coming in having no idea what was going on.

Nicole: Thank you for all the messages you put out, Lori.

Corrine: From BV, it looks like all of Salida is on fire.

Lori: Radio is out but we have been pushing information through Facebook.

Jan: Power lines have been damaged so we should be expecting issues. The AT&T tower has also been damaged so we might have issues. Salida has declared a Local Emergency. Ark Valley voice is putting out information on Facebook and Instagram.

Lori: If you have anything you want to share let me know.

Jan: The evacuation center moved to Methodist Church.

Lori: I lot of families have found places to stay because of this wonderful community. The smoke is supposed to be coming into town today and won't be very good.

Donna: Last year a lot of business stayed open last year for Halloween and we put these signs in the window to let kids know that they are open. This year the kids don't have school the next day because it's a Thursday

Corrine: We were going to present today, and we felt that our presentation was not imminent and might not be crucial to take up time with what's going on in this community. We'll try to get on another time.

Wendell: There is a lot of legislation that will affect small businesses. We have a personnel expert coming in on the 28th and 29th. Becki Page will be there to make a presentation about this. You need to be paying attention about what's happening in the way of HR and it will affect small businesses.

Corrine: If my presentation is why you're here today, I am available to grab a coffee and chat about it. We'd like to know about what programs are working. There has never been a democratic majority, so this has never been on the table. It is a complicated piece of legislation to provided payed family medical leave. The business would provide 12 weeks of payed leave And the business has to hold on to that position. Would there be an exception that would protect the smaller business and were trying to figure out that sweet spot. Something will go through, it's just a matter of what.

Wendell: You have to have over 50 employees to be covered. So, small businesses do not apply right not. Can existing employers maintain the benefits that they already have? It would be a similar tax to unemployment. There will be payed family leave, but the question is how.

Pam: For the self-employed person, it's tough. So, I do wonder how it will affect me.

Jan: We are presenting a digital security conference on oct 23rd and 24th at Mt. Princeton. We'll be talking about digital securities on a personal level. There have been massive cyber-attacks. The next day, we are inviting news media to come, though the public is welcome, we'll be covering what it's like to be a free press in todays society. The cost of the whole thing is \$45. We are also now members of the Colorado press association and we are in 41 states.

Donna: Great. Adjourned.

End: 9:29