

NEVADA CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, January 23, 2023
Meeting Time: 5:00 PM
AGENDA

- I. Called to Order at 5:03pm
Present: Gretchen, Celine, Moriah, Melissa, Teresa, Sheila
Others: Stuart, Lynn, Gregory, Adam Kline, Lou Cici
- II. Gretchen read the Land of Nisenan Statement – We acknowledge these are the ancestral homelands of the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe
- III. Hearing from the public – none
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - a. Minutes 12-19-22 – Sheila motioned to approve, Teresa seconded
- V. ACTION ITEMS:
 - a. Approval of 2023 Bylaws change regarding Dues Structure – Stuart lead a discussion. Celine asked why the increases were inconsistent, Lynn explained it was based on the previous dues structure. Stuart explained that we are looking to change the dues structure from a fair-share model to a tiered model next year.

Motion to approve made by Teresa, Celine seconded, all in favor 6-0
 - b. Approval of support of Ranch House project – Gregory present about the expanded Ranch House project and why it's important for our community. Stuart asked for board approval for the Chamber to support this project. He will attend the Board of Supervisors meeting tomorrow to show our support.

Celine moved to support the project, Sheila seconded, all in favor 6-0

***Action Item – Invite Heidi Hall to attend our meetings a few times per year (Stuart)**
***Action Item – Send a list of non-members or business to target this year (Lynn)**
***Action Item – Update brochure with new dues, make more attractive (Lynn)**
 - c. Approval of 2023 Budget – Stuart walked through the budget and explained the big difference in income is from the \$50,000 grant we received last year.

Teresa made a motion to approve, Celine seconded, all in favor 6-0
- VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS:
 - a. Intros for incoming board members – Stuart and Gretchen (10 minutes)
 - b. City Manager's report - Sean emailed report since he couldn't attend:

Business Development and Sustainability Fee Waiver Program

The City has issued fee waivers to 50+ business as will exceed the \$40,000 authorization. The January 25, 2023, City Council agenda includes a recommendation to increase the program authorization to \$60,000 in fee waivers. Most of the fee waiver use has been for business licenses and several conditional use permit applications for outdoor dining.

2023 Chamber Events Presentation to City Council

We anticipate seeing Lynn on February 22, 2023, at the City Council meeting to present on the 2023 Chamber events.

Business Licenses for Event Vendors

The Strategic Initiative Business Committee recommended that the City Council take up a municipal code amendment to allow for an event vendor business license type at a reduced fee and that bulk registration by event hosts allow an additional reduction. The item will be before the City Council before the end of March.

Housing Committee Agenda

The Strategic Initiative Housing Committee will meet at the same time as the Chamber Board on January 23, 2023. A lease local program that would incentivize the rental of rooms and homes to those who work but don't live in Nevada City is under consideration. Also under consideration is a potential future development of the city owned land near Zion and Argall into mixed use residential and retail use.

Vibrancy Committee Agenda

The Strategic Initiative Vibrancy Committee will meet on February 2, 2023. A public art process and the redevelopment of the 7-Hills area are among the anticipated agenda items. We anticipate Stuart attending and would encourage anyone interested in 7-Hills, public art, or Nevada City vibrancy to consider attending at 6pm that night.

City Newsletter

The City has changed the format of the bi-monthly newsletter and is now mailing it directly instead of in utility bills. The newsletter is online as well.

- c. Financial reports – Stuart explained the financial reports and noted that we've seen a significant increase in a bank account over the last year

Membership Report –

***Action Item – Gretchen will reach out to Utopian Stone**

New Businesses opening:

- BrewBilt looking to open a brewery in the old Tysa space – running into some issues on parking fees with the city. Stuart has been working with them

TJ's Roadhouse opening in the old Lefty's space

Hachidori's Japanese Kitchen – currently an event vendor, Stuart has connected them with Golden Era. Hoping they'll be able to use their kitchen space.

d. Executive Director report

Stuart announced that we found a replacement for Libby, Tina Jones, who will start on February 1st

The 7 Hills business mixer was a great success. There was a great turnout. Celine suggested a "Speed Dating" component to make sure we have the opportunity to talk to everyone. Tomorrow we have our monthly 7 Hills meeting, our first one at Sushi in the Raw.

Lou shared some ideas for 7 Hills improvements

- Put planters on Argall to use
- Around holidays wrap trees on Argall with lights
- Develop hiking trails (some already informally in place)

Celine suggested potentially removing planters and adding entry components on either end of Argall

Gretchen suggested lighting the bridge area to connect 7 Hills to downtown

Exterior Roof Line Lights – currently not in compliance with the City Resolution. Chamber put out a survey to businesses to gather input. Currently only allowed on during the holiday season. Most people surveyed support extending how long the lights are on. Everyone agreed that they would prefer to keep the lights on year round.

Stuart opened discussion about the Arts Council, he like to push to have something more tangible, versus the ethereal concept that it feels like now. The Chamber makes an annual contribution – perhaps we should put parameters of what we'd like to see in return.

-Teresa suggested naming them as a partner on the chamber website – Stuart noted they already are

-Celine suggested having a printout of their asset map to hand out at the visitor's center

e. 2023 Mixer Schedule - Lynn went over tentative schedule.

f. Installation Dinner –

- Adam & Mimi will emcee
- Stuart suggested giving Matt and Andrea tickets as a thank you since they've termed off
- The City will purchase a full table for all city council members
- Raffle – please get your items and descriptions into Lynn
- Stuart asked for input on Libby's retirement gift
- Lynn will submit floor plan to the Foundry
- Lynn will print and email flyers

- g. Social Media and events reports – Lynn handed out the annual calendar and went over events for 2023.

VII. Adjourned at 6:51pm

Next Regular Chamber Board meeting: February 20, 2023 @ 5PM