

PLEASE READ AND PASS ON

***MINUTES
FORTUNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE***

April 15, 2019

The April 15, 2019, meeting of the Fortuna Chamber of Commerce was called to order by Vice-Chair Seth McGrath with 32 persons present. Brian Gonzalez introduced Lisa Hall, US Bank Mortgage Loan Officer, as a guest.

Correspondence included announcements from the Chamber regarding upcoming speakers; April Chamber Mixer Flyer, Fortuna Senior Center Golf Ball Fundraiser, Ridgetop Café & Coffee Barn; Fortuna Concert Series; The MGC's April Calendar of Events; CR's free Sign Language Class; River Life Foundation/Dennis Wendt Trail Grand Opening; City of Fortuna's *Free Compost Week*; Times-Standard news clippings on Danco's "*Housing Project aims to house homeless, veterans, mentally ill*" and "*New Senior Center set to finish by end of year*"; Fortuna Downtown Business Association Citywide Yard Sale Application; U.S. SBA News Release "*SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available to California Small Business*;" HSU Music Department April Calendar; Cal-Ore Life Flight; Sequoia Park Zoo's *Party for the Planet*; CR's Annual Plant Sale; Press Release for "*The Adventure of TP Man and Flusher*;" Wild Souls Ranch *Sip of Summer*; Mother's Day Market; *Fortuna Senior Scene* Newsletter; and *The Whistle Punk* Newsletter.

Seth McGrath thanked Moonlight Catering for lunch.

Seth McGrath reminded everyone about the proposed changes to the Chamber By-laws. The proposed changes were on the tables. Unless there was objection, the Chamber will move to approve the changes on May 6th during the regular Monday Club meeting.

Becky Giacomini announced the April Chamber Mixer at Main Street Barber on Wednesday the 17th. It will be co-hosted with Smokin Barrels.

Sean Swanson announced the Ribbon Cutting for the Dennis Wendt Memorial Trail on Saturday, April 20th at 1:00 p.m. They did a cleanup over the weekend and covered up the graffiti with paint donated by Ace Hardware. Sean reported when he started clean ups two years ago, he was picking up 28,000 lbs of trash. This past weekend they collected only 500 lbs, so progress has been made.

Seth McGrath presented a new postcard created by Mary Bullwinkel and sponsored by the Tourism & Marketing Committee. They were available on the tables and free to anyone who wanted them. They were also available at the River Lodge and FBID. He also pointed out the two business cards on the table created by the Chamber to help support Chamber member businesses and encourage non-members to join.

Renee Lindsay thanked Mary Bullwinkel for doing a great job and always representing Fortuna in the Times-Standard.

Renee Lindsay announced the Janet East's retirement from Umpqua Bank on Friday, April 19th at 5:30 p.m. at Umpqua Bank. She also announced a Doodle Poll in today's email NewsBrief asking for comment on the frequency of Chamber emails. Feedback would be appreciated.

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Marilyn Strehl announced the Citywide Yard Sale on June 1st from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They would be calling merchants on Main Street to see if they wanted a booth in front of their business. The application was in the correspondence folder for anyone interested in having a vendor booth that didn't have a storefront on Main Street.

Brian Gonzalez announced Lemonade Day on June 1st during the Citywide Yard Sale and that US Bank was a major sponsor. Marilyn Strehl reported that there would be a lower booth fee for anyone participating in the Lemonade Day event.

Renee Lindsay announced Mandy Marquez of US Bank and Sue Seaman from Decade of Difference would be the guest speakers on May 13th and would be discussing the Lemonade Day event.

Merritt Perry announced the upcoming City Council meeting and the free compost offered by the City to residents April 15-19th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day. Interested residents could contact Doug Culbert at Public Works.

Carmen Glass announced the Fortuna Volunteer Fire Department would be having a "Push-In" and Blessing Ceremony for the new 110 ft. Aerial Truck on Saturday, April 20 at 1:00 p.m. She gave a brief history of the "push-in" ceremony. She also announced a First Aid class to be held Monday night at 6:00 p.m. at the Fire Station.

Jo Anne Center announced the Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Rohner Park on Saturday, April 20 at 10:00 a.m. sharp. All ages up to 12 are welcome. The Egg Hunt is sponsored by Soroptimist International of Eel River Valley and the Fortuna Lyons Club.

Becky Giacomini announced that the Rohner Community Recreation and Park District would be facilitating a feasibility study for a pool at the new GLC. On April 30th there will be a community forum at 5:30 p.m. at the Monday Club.

Seth announced the Chamber Breakfast meeting on April 29th at 7:00 am at the Monday Club and the free Chamber-sponsored Leadership Workshop by Maureen Merrill for Chamber members and their employees on April 25 from 1:30-5:00p.m. at the Monday Club.

Guest Speaker: Jim Peaker, St. Joseph Health Rehabilitation Center

Jim Peaker, Area Director of Rehabilitation Services, spoke about the new Rehab facility under construction at Redwood Memorial. The Rehab facility will provide "Acute Care" for patients who are transitioning out of hospital care due to an injury, accident, surgical complication, or stroke. Patients receive 3+ hours of therapy a day. The facility will be run by Dr. Charles Knoll. It will have 10 private patient rooms. The building will be approximately 12,000 sq. ft. with a 700 sq. ft. gym. The estimated cost is \$13 million and is being constructed by Beacom Construction. There are currently 44 therapists with over 15 areas of expertise. They conduct therapy 7 days a week at both hospitals. Harry Hardin recently donated \$100,000 because he felt "No one should feel they need to leave the area to receive the care they need." The Hospital used half of his donation to fund their residency program. Doctors who go through a residency program are more likely to stay in the community in which they attended the residency. That will help the community keep qualified doctors in the area. The other half of Harry's donation went to exercise programs to help combat symptoms of Parkinson's, a disease that Harry suffers from. The group exercise programs have classes 4 times a week. The Rock Steady Boxing Program has 4 classes each week in Eureka with 2 instructors. They also have support groups for stroke survivors and family members, a Chronic Pain Clinic, and Pelvic Floor Health classes. It is

estimated about 150 people have Parkinson's Disease in Humboldt County. The Hospital hopes to expand some of these classes into Redwood Memorial. You can contact Jim Peaker directly at Jim.Peaker@stjoe.org.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Lindsay
Recording Secretary