

Regular Meeting Minutes | Tuesday, March 13, 2018 | 7:00 a.m.

Windsor Hotel | Del Norte

Attendees: Tom Slade, Pam Bricker, Karla Shriver, Suzanne Benton, Jim Clare, Suzanne Bothell, John DeAntonio, Traci Holmes, Gene Glover, Kathy Rogers, Brent Logan, Linda Robinson, Gene Farish, Mike Hurst, Joelle Boos-Medina, Christian Grill, Marty Asplin, and Bonnie Asplin

- I. **Call to Order** 7:07 by President, Tom Slade
- II. **Present Agenda:** M/S by Kathy Rogers/Gene Farish; approved
- III. **Minutes of the February 13, 2018 meeting:** M/S for approval by Jim Clare/Suzanne Bothell; approved
- IV. **Treasurer's Report:** Linda Robinson reported the account balance to be \$ 105,857.53, with obligated funds at \$55,857.53; no objections voiced.
- V. **Director's Report:** New Tax Bill/Invest in Opportunity Act involves Opportunity Zones and Funds, and URGED is working with SLVDRG and Brownfields as we relate to opportunity zones.; Our follow-up with OEDIT after the February Ag Conference with the Valley's hemp industry news going international; follow-up to the Colorado Film Industry meeting, providing them with contact information with the BLM and local historical churches; an update on the SLV Healthcare Sectors Partnership activities; our meeting with Senator Cory Gardner's Washington DC Counsel, Brian Wanamaker, and Cathy Garcia along with local stakeholders on topics such as workforce, financing, banking, economic development, etc.; communications with TSJC and their plans for a skilled trades facility; our recent work with ASU's Civic Engagement Office
- VI. **Business:**
 - a. Regular Meeting Program 2018 has been set up. The Program shows who the presenters are for the year. There are a couple of spots towards the end have not been finalized yet. Next month we have our Annual Meeting April 9th at the Rio Grande Club. Monday was chosen so more people could attend. Emails will be sent out with the details. We must know who is attending 6-7 days ahead of time.
 - b. Membership into URGED – a reminder that we always accept new memberships and encouragement to solicit more folks to join URGED
 - c. SLV Marketing Logo – note it is on your Agenda and last month's minutes
 - d. One example of Economic Development: We are working with public and private people in the healthcare industry and higher education. The healthcare industry is having a problem finding qualified employees. How do we solve this problem? Public/Private partnerships and collaboration. We need to work with secondary education (BOCES), start training young people now so they have the skills they need to work in healthcare -- creating a pipeline, growing our own, concurrent education, creating a workforce.
- VII. **Program:** John DiAntonio, Executive Director Creede Repertory Theatre. John started the program with a bit of history of himself. He then went on to explain some of the tenants the theatre believes in: repertory, liveness, accessibility and artistry. He described some of the shows in the 2018 season. This is the theatre's 53rd season. The Wizard of Oz was an interesting project as they have the fun challenge of transporting the audience to several locations, from Kansas to Munchkin land, a poppy field, emerald city, witch's castle, haunted forest and many more. The set designer created a different model for each.

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Some of the other shows this season are *9 to5*, *Barefoot in the Park*; *Miss Holmes*, *Guadalupe in the Guest Room*, and *Boomtown*. In *The Kid Show* local kids get the opportunity to do a play. Young Audience Outreach Tour brings professional musical theatre performances to more than 24,000 children in rural and underserved communities by keeping fees low and connecting to school curriculum. After the performance each child receives an original book that reinforces the play's themes. Inspired by myth, fairy tale and Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, *Seeds o Change* fosters environmental literacy through the story. This story explores topics in environmental science, deforestation, ocean plastic and habitat loss through wonder and empowerment. The Theatre is looking to sell 2,000 more tickets than last year. They are offering a local ticket discount recognizing that everyone needs to be able to afford the shows. They are presently looking for a business manager and DiAntonio said that the search is going quite well. They have a new marketing director and are pushing for group sales, "Donate a Seat" campaign, new ticketing system, mix of online and on the ground marketing efforts. Questions and Answers followed.

VIII. **Regular Reports:**

- a) *Rio Grande County* – Working with busing the new bus routes transport to Pueblo. Should know more on this in the next couple of weeks. Did not lose any artifacts during the flood at the Museum. Road and bridge is going after road work. Suzanne has been working on getting a nurse for the jail house. Getting ready to sign contracts and relieve the hospital of the inmate issue. The nurse will be an employee of the county and will share with Saguache County.
- b) *South Fork* – Dan Hicks is out of the country. Last Wednesday night was the meet and greet for the eight candidates for the 4 seats. 50-60 people were in attendance. Rodney Reed is running for mayor unopposed. Working with Chamber of Commerce with their customer service presentation each month.
- c) *Del Norte* – Doing a lot of planning, zoning, & land use work. People looking to move here from Salida, which is a learning curve as to what they can build here. Hospital construction is continuing almost on schedule; surgery is back "on line" and there will be more services than before. New School means repurposing old buildings: Head Start is locked down; DNFD is interested in the Field House; The USFS and three other interested parties in the remainder of the buildings.
- d) *Monte Vista* – Multi-Purpose building in Ski Hi Park is in need of repairs. Might get a citizen group together to get a grant to get started on the process. They won't do anything major until after the 4H Fair. Before the swimming pool can be torn down they have to do some structural repair. The little building down by the slide is to be down by Stampede. The Crane Festival went well. All the chambers are working together and are meeting quarterly.
- e) *Saguache County* – Two-million-dollar sewer project is finishing up. Crestone renovation project via a DOLA grant is moving forward.
- f) *Alamosa* – Adams State University has an acting president now.

IX. **Next Meeting:** Annual Meeting April 9th at 5:30 p.m., at the Rio Grande Club

X. **Program:** Mark Falcone & Mike Anderson, The Frontier Drive-In Project

XI. **Adjourn:** 8:08 a.m. on a M/S by Gene Glover/Suzanne Bothell. Respectfully submitted, Linda Robinson