

## January 8, 2013 Executive Board Planning Meeting

The Executive Committee and membership of the South Platte United Chambers of Commerce met January 8, 2013 at the Holdrege Country Club with approximately 12 people attending.

Following lunch, the meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by President Tom Hastings who welcomed Monica Lueking-Crowe, Executive Director of the Furnas/Harlan partnership and Gene Morris, McCook writer and business entrepreneur.

President Hastings called for additions to the agenda. The agenda was approved as read.

### **Old Business**

#### Website

The South Platte brochure document needs to be worked into Desktop Publisher, and then a pdf file may be sent to Jean Issler for addition to the website. President Hastings said that interns will be available at the Hastings Chamber office during the summer to accomplish the task. Jay Hall suggested that a South Platte business card would be an asset for communicating the South Platte mission and contact information. After dialogue, the committee agreed and voted to set-up a business card document on the South Platte United Chambers of Commerce website. The following facts will be printed on the card: South Platte United Chambers of Commerce, Contact Information, Website address, and "The voice of business in southwest and south central, Nebraska

The suggestion was approved by the committee. Jean Issler will set up the document on the website, and it may be copied and printed on card stock.

#### Nominating Committee

Tim Anderson reported that he is in contact with a potential president or vice-president nominee, and he expects a response soon.

#### Membership

President Hastings raised the question about membership costs and privileges for businesses with multiple locations. The committee members decided to invite business entities with multiple locations to join the South Platte United Chambers of Commerce at a yearly cost of \$500, and a voting membership will be offered to one person at each business location.

#### Recognition of former Senator Ben Nelson

The South Platte members want to commemorate and recognize former Senator Nelson for his service to Nebraska as Governor and the United States of America as a U. S. Senate. Betty Sayers will speak with Tim Anderson about planning an occasion to honor former Senator Nelson.

# Meeting Minutes

## South Platte Goals for 2012

President Hastings read the following goals that the organization established in **January 2012**:  
New brochure describing the South Platte United Chambers of Commerce mission, goals, meeting dates, etc.

- Work with Glenwood Communication to renew and update the South Platte website
- Letters (?)
- Write resolutions and send to Unicameral Senators
- Invite the Omaha Chamber Executive to speak at a South Platte United Chambers of Commerce meeting
- Plan and carry-out a President's tour
- Invite speakers to a forum on housing concerns and solutions
- Design and print a brochure for the South Platte United Chambers of Commerce
- Remit payment to Angela Amack
- Send meeting notifications by E-mail prior to the meetings each month

The Executive Board members noted that the organization accomplished all but two of the goals: invitation to Omaha Chamber Director to speak at a South Platte meeting and the president's tour. The organization will act on these goals in 2013.

## **New Business**

### Scheduling 2013 meeting locations and speakers

Meeting date: February 12, 2013

Location: Cunningham Feed Restaurant in Arapahoe or Community Building in Bertrand

Topic: Tourism Commission, Crane and White Pelican Migration, Planning for Wildlife Tourism in south central and southwest Nebraska

Speaker: Karen Kollars, Tom Tabor, and/or Kathy McKillup (Director of Tourism Commission)

Meeting date: March 12, 2013

Location: Holdrege Country Club

Topic: Forum: Solutions to Work Force Needs in the South Platte Region

Speakers: Shawn Kaskie, University of Nebraska at Kearney, CCC representative and NCTA representative, Allmand Bros. Manufacturing in Holdrege, Kauffman Trailers in Beaver City, and others

Meeting date: April 9, 2013

Location: Lincoln, Nebraska

Topic: Reception for members of the Nebraska Unicameral

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Meeting date: May 14, 2013

Location: Hastings

Topic: Affordable Care Act

Speaker: Barry Carlson & Associates, Central City

Meeting date: June 11, 2013

Location: Red Cloud

Topic: community co-op

Speaker: Jim Crandall and Chamber Directors of communities that organized business cooperatives

Meeting date: July 9, 2013

Location: Cardinal Country Club in Oxford

Topic: Golf

Meeting date: August 13, 2013

Location: Alma, Little Mexico on the Lake

Topic: University of Nebraska Basketball

Speaker: Tim Miles

Meeting date: September 10

Location: McCook

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Topic: ethanol production in rural Nebraska

Speakers: Managers of ethanol plants in Trenton, Cambridge, Axtell and Hastings

## Resolution

President Hastings invited members to consider writing a resolution concerning the Inheritance Tax in Nebraska. He said specifically that the city of Hastings wants the legislature to keep the inheritance tax at its current rate because the county needs the tax dollars. Other members of the South Platte region agreed. The Inheritance Tax Resolution will be on the agenda for the February meeting.

## How to build a crowd at South Platte meetings

Gene Morris suggested that the organization send a news release prior to every meeting describing the topic and telling about the speaker in exciting and dynamic language to “hook” the potential attendee. Jean Issler, Administrative Assistant for the organization said she would write a news release and send it out to the newspapers in the region. Morris said that newspaper editors are looking for news, and if the news release on the upcoming speaker is pertinent to current issues and of interest to citizens in the region, the editor will publish the announcement.

## Goals for 2013

President Hastings asked all members to consider the following two questions: Where do we want the organization to be by this time in 2014 and what do we want to accomplish? Our responses and suggestions will be an item on the February agenda.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Sayers