

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: 09/13/2016

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Red Cloud Opera House

PURPOSE: Quarterly Meeting

1. President Tim Anderson called the meeting to order.
2. Introductions were made around the room
3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Checking account balance 8/31/2016: \$6092.29
4. Additions to the Agenda
 - a. Secretary position is open; Marilyn and David Snodgrass resigned from being co-secretaries due to their business growth
5. Delinquent Dues
 - a. List of unpaid invoices was distributed; Tim asked members to contact people they know from the list to encourage member signups
6. December Meeting
 - a. Topic was decided to be Legislative Issues; state senators would be invited to be on a panel
 - b. Tim asked Alli Donohue to inform Legislative Chair Ron Tillery and confirm that he could plan the meeting
 - c. Tim encouraged members to gather legislative issues to talk to state senators
7. Grant Report from Betty Sayers
 - a. Betty was unable to attend, but sent a letter describing the use of SPUCC's grant to Nebraska Rural Living (attached) in the Dynamic Communities Under 10,000 project
8. Pioneer Village Project
 - a. Marshall Nelson, director of Pioneer Village was in attendance to discuss the attraction's struggles with funding, upkeep of the facility and signage, and declining numbers of visitors
 - b. SPUCC members Larry Wilcox and Dena Beck serve on the PV advisory council
 - c. Members discussed ways that SPUCC might be able to support the museum; some ideas were a membership program, an adopt-a-museum program, making more use of volunteers for maintenance. The board expressed its willingness to aid the museum and asked Marshall to let the board know what is needed.
9. Adjourned

Submitted by Jean Issler

The program for the meeting was *Learning to Toot Our Own Horn*, focusing on Nebraska tourism projects.

Business Meeting/Program Attendance

Karen	Kollars	Nebraska Tourism Commission (guest speaker)
John	Laux	Nebraska Game & Parks (guest speaker)
Jarrod	McCartney	Red Cloud Heritage Tourism/Economic Dev. (guest speaker)
Amy	Sandeen	Prairie Loft (guest speaker)
Carol	Schlegel	Nebraska Tourism Commission (guest speaker)

Tim	Anderson	CNPPD&ID
Dena	Beck	REAP
Marcy	Brandt	Minden Opera House
Julie	Brooker	Sen. Fischer's Office
Matt	Cederburg	City of Minden
Mary	Crawford	NCTA-Curtis
Kirk	Dixon	McCook Economic Development
Alli	Donohue	Phelps County Dev. Corp
Xokprakhong	Figgins	Figgins Construction
Ashley	Gerlach	NDED
Kelly	Gewecke	NDED
Jay	Hall	SPUCC
Brittany	Hardin	
Tom	Hastings	Hastings Chamber
Jeff	Hofaker	City of Sutton
Sharon	Hueftle	SCEDD
Jean	Issler	Office Genie
Ron	Knaus	
Dale	Loschen	
Don	Macke	
Rick	Nelsen	NPPD
Marshall	Nelson	Pioneer Village
Stan	Offner	
Ashley	Olson	Willa Cather Foundation
Liz	Rasser	Starke Round Barn
Karen	Wilcox	Minden Exchange Bank
Larry	Wilcox	Minden Exchange Bank
Kim	Wilson	

Message from Betty Sayers, Nebraska Rural Living

To: South Platte United Chambers of Commerce members

From: Betty Sayers,
Nebraska Rural Living
701 4th Ave., Holdrege, NE 68949
Bsayers@nebraskaruralliving.com
308 995 4601

Ref: video produced for Minden, Holdrege, Oxford, Red Cloud, Eustis, Alma, and Bertrand Dynamic Community sites featured on www.Nebraskaruralliving.com website.

Next Steps: Please forward names and email addresses of high school alumna to Bsayers@nebraskaruralliving.com, and we will add them to our email service so that “your own” will keep up with your community’s strengths and improvements

Hello and thank you for your support of the video shoot for our “Dynamic” communities currently featured on the Nebraska Rural Living website and monthly e-magazine. The following is a draft of the press release that will accompany the announcement of the video shoot. We feel proud of the videos and think they bring a smile and show spacious, orderly, interesting, and attractive communities to live and work and play.

Draft of Press Release

Videos Showcase Minden, Holdrege, Oxford, Red Cloud, Eustis, Alma, Bertrand, Cambridge, McCook, and Arapahoe on www.Nebraskaruralliving.com

See rural Nebraska and towns under 10,000 from a fresh perspective. Nebraska Rural Living is featuring videos of Minden, Holdrege, Oxford, Red Cloud, Eustis, Alma, Bertrand, Cambridge, McCook, and Arapahoe including up-to-date profiles of each community. The videos show a fresh perspective of towns under 10,000 from the vantage point of a drone flying higher than the tallest grain elevator, and the profiles tell a rich and varied story of each community’s strengths, improvements and future plans.

See the videos at www.Nebraskaruralliving.com then click on the “Dynamic” community feature.

Nebraska Rural Living, an online magazine launched in 2006 under the umbrella of the South Platte United Chambers of Commerce <http://spuccne.com> with a goal to educate our audience about the vibrant and business-friendly amenities of communities under 10,000 population in Nebraska. We invite our readers to join us and take a career opportunity, bring a business, start a business, retire or visit as a tourist.

We measure success for our 501©(3) business by the number of readers on social media, the website and newsletter. Nebraska Rural Living started with 600 post office addresses of high school graduates from 8 high schools in the South Platte region. Today our readers and visitors number over 30,000 and we send direct e-mail messages every month to nearly 5,000 interested readers including alumna of our high schools.

Our readers favor the “Dynamic Communities” column and read and reread the community profiles maybe because the profiles reveal the good natured, respectful, joyful, and “amiable” America as described in an essay by Garrison Keillor, *Prairie Home Companion*, radio personality and humorist in August 20, 2016 *Omaha World Herald newspaper*. Readers see evidence of rural resident’s commitments to their community and their cooperative efforts to create opportunities that benefit youth, their neighborhoods, and the world.

The South Platte United Chambers of Commerce provided funds to produce the videos with matching dollars from the communities. Videographer is Kim Woods of Bull Dog Graphics.