

Madera County EDC Chamber Alliance minutes June 24, 2020

The meeting was held via zoom, although there was confusion and some members went to the Oakhurst Grill.

In Attendance:

Via Zoom:

Aran Jahal

Bob Brosi

Theresa Wilson

Bob Macauley

Wade Wheeler

Kathy Thornberg

Oakhurst Grill:

Rhonda Salisbury

Lanie Suderman

Meeting called to order at 8:17 A.M.

No public comment

Introductions commenced

Minutes and Financials approved

Chamber reports:

Bass Lake:

No fireworks, boat parade will be held, meet in Willow Cove by 7:00 to join in. Local businesses giving prizes, judging will be in front of Millers Landing.

We had one drowning a visitor from Sacramento male 63, may have had a heart attack.

8 DUI'S on lake so far this year, up significantly from all of 2019.

Businesses up and running and doing well, crowds are large, we are concerned about graffiti and vandalism, illegal parking, speeding through the village and on Road 274.

Per Bob Macauley Americorp will be back at the lake after the 4th to pick up trash their first trash pick up netted 300 lbs. of trash....

We are dark July and August, next meeting Sept 8th 10:00 at the homeowner's office (we hope).

Coarsegold:

Had their first meeting since February, they are working to better connect with local businesses, no directories will be published this year. Businesses are getting busier

North Fork:

Chamber and the North Fork Boosters have partnered together, the Visitor center is closed and now back in the general store, all items were donated to Bob McKee. The 501c6 will stay intact and all business will be done through the Boosters. Wade introduced Kathy Thornberg who will also be joining us at our Alliance meetings. The chamber website is being worked on. Car show will be held at the Rec center if COVID allows.

Amanda's drive through coffee is out of business due to COVID, Public out of business not COVID related. The visitor center space will be rented out as smaller units, the trading post is back in NF. The market is also looking to create two suites inside the store for office/business use rentals.

Oakhurst:

Local businesses on the upswing, they had to let Carrie go to reduce expenses so no one at the office answering phones, etc. There was no spring fundraiser, unsure if Fall Festival will occur, it will be a two day event, no Midway, more food vendors and games for kids, will look to incorporate Sierra Art Trails, perhaps Chamber Alliance can sponsor wine and beer tent, proceeds could be split among the chambers if Alliance agrees to take that on. Biggest benefit to businesses right now is social media, eblasts, and newsletters. No member appreciate dinner in August, perhaps combine that somehow with installation dinner at year end.

Theresa mentioned that the Elegant Auction will not be held this year, they are looking at an online auction for items already donated to raise funds to keep the park open.

Bob Macauley Supervisor Wheeler's Chief of Staff reported that the morning Rotary club is still planning a Cajun Fest in July and are looking at a contingency plan of a "Grab and Go". Lafco is planning their review meeting July 23rd at 4:00 online and looking for a place for people to gather, Wade and Kathy suggested North Fork Town Hall and will confirm if available. Bob will send Theresa information to share with the community as this will affect all Special Districts in Bass Lake and North Fork and Eastern Madera County. Looking at CSA, CSD and economies of scale. United Way will sponsor printing of High Fire Danger signs, Wade to provide graphics and will reach to Rico.

Census underway and reported response numbers are low in some areas:

North Fork 30%

Raymond 45%

Oakhurst 50%

CG not on list as they may be doing better and no reminder or intervention required.

Bass Lake 56%

Still would like more banners, up Bass Lake can donate theirs back for use. Asked all to spread the word. Land donated in North Fork by Manzanita Lake totals approximately 156 acres, Phase 1 and Phase 2 moving forward, Phase 3 (campgrounds) has pushback. Name still undecided, we feel North Fork Regional Park to credit North Fork would be ideal.

Americorp worked Bass Lake, River Parkway, North Fork so far, be sure if you see them to say thank you! Trash Pickle is a local facebook page that also picks up trash.

Rhonda Salisbury and Lanie Suderman left the meeting early so no Visitor Bureau update at this time.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 A.M. (close enough)

Next meeting is July 22nd 8:00 location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Wilson

Bass Lake Chamber President