

## Columbia Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

### Board of Directors' and General Members' Quarterly Meeting

Prepared by: Myia Davila

**Meeting Date:** July 20, 2022

**Location:** Eagle Cotage, Columbia State Historic Park

**Called to Order:** 5:36 pm

**Present:** Rosanna Sharps – Chairman and President, Denise Favela – Interim Vice Chairman and Interim Vice President (3 months as of May 18, 2022), Jo Rodefer – Treasurer, Myia Davila – Secretary

**Board of Directors:** Leannha Rhodes, Nate Lint, Howard White

**Absent Members:** John Favela-Vice Chairman and Vice President; Michael Sharps, Richard Haratani, Janine Osborne

**Quorum:** Met, 7 members present

The Board voted and approved the agenda for the July 20, 2022 meeting (7 yay, 0 no, 0 abstain).

**Guests:** Jaron Brandon-Tuolumne County District 5 Supervisor

Joel Memmer-Columbia State Historic Park Superintendent and Chief Ranger

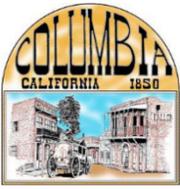
Jeffrey Weissman-Red Barn

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** March 16, 2022, pending from Prior Secretary, Denise Favela

Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2022, email approval on June 19, 2022: 10 Yes, 0 No

**Columbia State Historic Park Updates:** Joel Memmer provided Park updates. Kristan Robinson-Bates, Concession Specialist is out on leave and scheduled to return in mid-August. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July event was a success and Jo Rodefer was “really organized” and provided direct communication with Park staff that was appreciated. Tom Fraser indicated that barricades are needed in front of his ticket office prior to the parade because of difficulty parking two stagecoaches with people setting up to watch the parade. Additionally, the band was too close to the horses and the upper road needs to be monitored because people were parking in his way.

Levi’s Jeans will be in the park on Sunday, July 24, 2022, and Monday, July 25, 2022, under permit, for a photo shoot.



The City Hotel concession contract is still in process and should reach completion within the next 4-6 weeks.

The Horse-Drawn Conveyance Concession Request for Proposals (RFP) will be soon, and the pre-proposal meeting should be in mid-August or possibly during the last week of August at Eagle Cotage. A two-week notice will need to be in the local paper along with other legal requirements. Tom Fraser indicated that he has been on a month-to-month contract for the entire time of his operation of the concession (13 years) and it is difficult to invest in the business without knowing if he will continue to have the concession. Mr. Memmer indicated that this should be remedied by next year.

The Park will be looking at additional ways to support concessionaires and will look at ensuring annual performance reports are completed regularly as this can increase the incumbent's ability to retain a concession when an RFP is released.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jo Rodefer, Treasurer  
Current Balance: \$10,675.89

The Columbia Chamber of Commerce currently has 30 members, including supporting members and businesses that benefit from the events, marketing, website directory, Facebook page acknowledgement, and future workshops.

**Motion:** to approve Treasurer's Report: Jo Rodefer; seconded by Myia Davila; Board all in favor; motion carried.

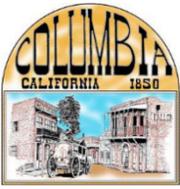
**Event Update:** Jo Rodefer, Event Coordinator for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration, indicated that the event was profitable with \$658.94 net income. The 2021 net profit for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event was \$1,073.41. The barbeque was difficult to coordinate and other options will be reviewed before next year. A volunteer has come forward to assist Jo Rodefer next year as a co-coordinator. The Vietnam Veteran's Association (VVA) did most of the work in preparing and serving food for the barbeque without compensation. The VVA funds scholarships and all donated funds in exchange for their service at the barbeque would benefit the scholarship fund and not individual volunteers.

**Motion:** to approve donate \$200 to the VVA: Denise Favela; seconded by Leannha Rodes; 5 Yays, 2 Abstains, 0 Nays; motion carried.

Net profit for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July changed to \$458.94 with the VVA donation.

**Event Update:** Art Show already has 30 people signed up and the event will take place in 2022.

**Event Update:** Fiddle & Bango contest still needs a fundraising coordinator and Jodi Barnett is



the contest coordinator. Jodi Barnett could not attend this meeting.

**Motion:** to have a special meeting on Thursday, July 28, 2022, at 5:30 pm at the Columbia House Restaurant specifically, regarding Fiddle & Bango: Jo Rodefer; seconded by Myia Davila; Board All in Favor; motion carried.

**Event Update:** Harvest Festifall event coordinator Myia Davila indicated that tentative budget has been completed but some items are still pending. No issues to address at this stage.

**Event Update:** Columbia Town Christmas Party is scheduled for December 14, 2022, at Angelo's Hall. Set up will begin at 4:00 pm, guests can arrive at 5:00 pm (cocktail hour), and dinner will be at 6:00 pm.

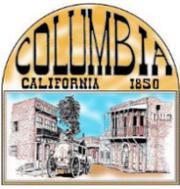
**Event Update:** Las Posadas Nativity Parade will be coordinated by Daniel Wright (not present) and no updates were provided.

**Event Update:** Columbia Winterfest Days of Music & Gold will most likely be punted to next Year as the Ice Skate Park will not be operational until late 2022 and will not generate the funds needed for Winterfest. . Jeffrey Weissman indicated that he has moved to the area and is excited to bring Winterfest to Columbia and will be available to train docents and volunteers to stay in character during the event.

**Event Update:** Columbia Ice Skate Park is ready to go but because of delays with the contractor, the Board discussed contracting other contractors to pack the sand for the foundation and build the forms around the outside of the sand. The skate rink is not considered permanent and can be removed if plans change for the location.

**New Event Discussion:** Consideration of a dog event in June or November but nothing is scheduled yet. Ideas are welcomed.

**New/Other Business:** The Columbia Chamber of Commerce Mixer is scheduled for August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at the Columbia House Restaurant. Other mixers may include a joint venture with Friends of Columbia, Visit Tuolumne, and the Sonora Chamber of Commerce.



The membership and directory for the Columbia Chamber of Commerce will be updated on July 31 so anyone interested in being listed in the directory needs to turn in applications soon.

The Columbia Booksellers and Variety Store has plenty of rack cards available if anyone needs any.

The Pedro Wye Columbia Gateway Sign is in the design stage. Jaron Brandon provided a sample design and Sherrin Grout suggested that we also look at the Amador City and lone signs that look great.

**Tuolumne County Updates:** Jaron Brandon, Tuolumne County Supervisor. Public input can be provided at the next Columbia Area Advisory Council Meeting for the Pedro Wye Columbia Gateway Sign. The date for this meeting is pending.

The county is reviewing vegetation management for unimproved parcels that are ½ acre or less. Presentation of Clean California by Caltrans to reduce litter along state highways, local roads, tribal lands, parks, pathways, and transit centers.

The county has limited funds to improve roadways and increase fire protection in Columbia. The increased county sales tax will benefit infrastructure and probably not affect tourism.

**Chamber Business:** Prior Secretary Denise Favela, offered to purchase recording device as it was purchased specifically for her. The Chamber declined the offer as the Chamber would like to keep the device.

**Motion:** to adjourn: Denise Favela; seconded by Jo Rodefer; Board all in favor; motion carried.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Adjourned by Rosanna Sharps, 7:24 pm.

**Next Meeting/Chamber Mixer Date:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022, 5:30pm at Angelo's Hall.