



**STEAMBOAT SPRINGS**  
CHAMBER RESORT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Annual Retreat Minutes – Steamboat Springs Economic Development Council

**County Commissioners Meeting Room**

Time:

\*\*\*\*\*7:30 a.m.\*\*\*\*\*

Date:

November 12, 2008

**Call to Order – Grant Fenton presiding**

Grant Fenton called the meeting to order at 7:36 a.m.

**Introductions of members and guests – 7:30 a.m.**

**Members Present:** Karl Gills, Nancy Stahoviak, Randy Rudasics, Steve Moos, Brian Berry, Marsha Daughenbaugh, Mark Steinke, Wendy DuBord, Jamie Kingsbury, Joyce Hartless, Grant Fenton, Jane Blackstone, Tom Sullivan, Noreen Moore, Donna Howell, Jeff Minotto, Bill Moser, Brian Bradbury, Darcy Trask

**Members Absent:** Audrey Danner, Laurie Good, Adonna Allen, Darcy Trask, Sarah Fox

**Staff:** Sandy Evans Hall, Meagan Coates

**Review & Approval of October Minutes – 7:33 a.m.**

A motion to approve the October minutes as edited was moved by Nancy Stahoviak and seconded by Jane Blackstone. All were in favor, no one opposed.

**1. Review of Mission and Vision Statement for Steamboat Springs EDC - 7:35 a.m.**

As part of the Chamber, there are four standing committees including the EDC, marketing committee, lodging committee, and ambassadors group. The board of directors oversees the operations at the Chamber and of the committees. The EDC focuses on the economic well being of Steamboat including industries outside of tourism. The goal is to educate and support our business community. Through understanding the local and regional economy, the SSEDCC mission is to promote long-term, environmentally sound, economic stability and diversification.

**2. EDC Community Education – Forum Series - 7:45 a.m.**

The goal is to bring the community together for an educational effort. Last year, the topic was affordable housing and the previous year was workforce issues. There are 5 days of panel speakers with question and answer sessions in a luncheon style format.

**a. Topic selection:**

*“Surviving & Thriving in Tough Economic Times”*

*Surviving*

Historical Recession Management, Cost Containment, Customer Service, Marketing, Strategic Planning, Workforce, Financing, Business To Business Support, Shop Local Campaign

**b. Dates**

Forums will be monthly luncheon format from January-April on Fridays.

**c. Venue**

Rex's or at a downtown venue, depending on availability.

**d. Volunteers for Forum Series**

Grant, Randy, Wendy, Noreen, Bill, Jane, Jeff, Joyce, Brian Bradbury, Steve Moos

**3. EDC Community Education – Economic Summit – 8:40 a.m**

**a. Review of past topics of Economic Summit**

**b. Idea for 2009 Economic Summit**

*“Surviving and Thriving in Tough Economic Times”*

*Thriving*

Alternative Energy, Local Foods, Health Care, Internet, Small Town Character

**c. Volunteers for 2009 Economic Summit**

Grant, Randy, Noreen, Bill, Marsha, Jamie, Mark, Donna, Brian Berry

*~Break ~*

**4. Economic Strategic Plan – 9:50 a.m**

**a. Steidtman Presentation**

As the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats are being examined for our region in order to determine an economic strategic plan we have been able to determine that areas for growth include energy development, increased broadband capabilities, healthcare, and local foods.

*Strengths*

Air service, broadband, arts and culture, quality of life, health care, sense of community, isolation, URA, sustainability council, real estate value, local foods, recreational amenities, public partnerships, civic involvement, educated work force, education system, flat social system, diverse economy, public lands, rich history and Western spirit, national brand, creative people, land use policies, infrastructure and transit, community buildings, mainstreet, tourism, affluence, base area, assimilation of new people, water

*Weaknesses*

Bark beetles, geographic isolation, traffic congestion, inconsistent broadband, sales tax reliance, base area development, retail leakage, public perception of availability of goods, attainable living, limited growing season, impacts of construction, assimilation of new people, lack of incentives for alternative energy, no tax incentives for businesses, seasonality, wages, cost of doing business, diversity of population, lodging limitation, childcare/senior care needs

*Opportunities*

Base area, retail options, childcare/senior care, land availability, attainable housing, cultural heritage, tourism, arts and culture, beetle kill, Western spirit, boomer demographic, philanthropy, retirees, redefine economic vision, regional connections, business partnerships, create budget efficiencies, summer base area amenities, National Forest use (recreational/logging), recruit young families

*Threats*

Beetle kill, water loss and quality, access, fires and erosion, urban sprawl, rapid growth, cost of energy, credit access, competition with similar communities, erosion of values, dependency on ski area, cost of government,

decreased air service, loss of TCS, global warming/no snow, loss of clean air/environment, loss of young families, loss of business (affordability)

**b. How would Steamboat Springs define success?**

Diverse industries, new business creation, population growth, increasing GDP/livability index, maintaining sense of community, access to recreation, education access in our region, ability to hire qualified employees, balanced growth with community values.

**5. Adjournment 10:30 a.m.**

Grant Fenton adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

**Future meeting dates:**

January 28, 2008

February 25, 2008