

**The Community Voice of Dove Creek
Minutes
Monday, February 4, 2019 – 5:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
Community Voice Office
115 South Guyrene**

Resident Team Members Present

**Kim Alexander
Lindsay Cressler
Chelsea Garchar
Adam Nelson
Robbie Nelson
Ellen Warren**

Resident Team Members Absent

**Madalyn Baker
Jan Agardy**

Guests

**Eric Stiasny
Triston Jarmon
Shauna Snyder**

Staff Present

**Ronda Lancaster, Community Coordinator
Heather Nielson, Community Outreach Coordinator**

AGENDA APPROVAL

Robbie Nelson made a motion to approve the agenda. Lindsay Cressler seconded the motion. Kim Alexander abstained, all others voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 7, 2019 MINUTES

Ellen Warren made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Robbie Nelson seconded the motion. Kim Alexander abstained with all present voting in favor.

JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM

Eric Stiasny, Advisor, and Tristen Jarmon, Member, presented the Junior Firefighter Program sponsored through the Dove Creek Volunteer Fire Department. The program has developed operating guidelines and a permission form for members of the program. The program is being sponsored through the DCVFD and has

seven current members from freshmen to senior age group. The organization will take members in 8th grade or 14 years of age to join and can participate until the age of 18. The group has very strict and specific guidelines and requirements. The program is designed to provide training to young adults that will allow them to participate in DCVFD training, calls, volunteer events and programs. The program will need funding for equipment, training and programs. The funding could go through the DCVFD. The program's intent is to provide classroom training in core areas of interest with classes focused on CR, communications, general fire fighting training, rescue and EMS education, and fire safety and prevention. The program hopes that it will open career opportunities and, at the very least, provide training and experience to the program participants.

Eric Stiasny will put together a budget and present to the Community Coordinator to be presented to the Resident Team for consideration of funding. This program is one that The Community Voice has worked for a very long time.

FINALIZATION OF RETREAT AGENDA

The Resident Team reviewed the February 6, 2019 Retreat Agenda. The Resident Team felt the agenda met the needs for the Retreat and covered the issues for The Community Voice.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Information was presented by Robbie Nelson concerning the development of hemp farming and processing. Robbie Nelson reported that the farm bill has been changed to accept hemp as a crop and to allow federal water for the development and farming of the hemp product. Hemp is considered a value-added agriculture crop. Robbie Nelson stated that the processing plant was here in the safflower processing plant. San Luis Valley has 100,000 acres in production. Montezuma County has a large number of acres in production. The Resident Team will continue research and discussion with Gus Westerman, CSU Extension Officer for Dolores County. Gus Westerman will be asked about the current individuals interested in the safflower processing plant for hemp processing. Ronda Lancaster will try to get Jim Candelaria, a hemp farmer in Montezuma County, to attend a meeting as soon as possible.

VARIOUS THANK YOU NOTES

Several thank you notes directed to The Community Voice from community members were presented to the Resident Team.

YOUTH VOICE UPDATE

Heather Nielson gave an update on the Youth Voice stating that a trip to the Conundrum Room in Durango Colorado has been planned on Friday, February 8th. There are 8 Youth Voice members that are planning on attending. Ronda Lancaster reported that the Youth Voice t-shirts have been ordered and should be available before the February 8th trip. The t-shirts are being purchased through a local company.

SALUTING EXCELLENCE FOR YOUTH

The current Saluting Excellence has been focused towards adults. The Resident Team felt it was good to also acknowledge the youth of the community. Carol Marie Howell was named as a good source for nominations. We will put together an ad campaign and move forward with nominations for the youth.

CASUAL LUNCHEON DATE

Ronda Lancaster asked the Resident Team if there was a date that they would like to have the casual luncheon. The Resident Team felt it could float according to everyone's schedules.

DOLORES COUNTY NOT FOR PROFIT & VOLUNTEER SUMMIT

A flyer for the Dolores County Not for Profit & Volunteer Summit was presented so that Resident Team Members could attend, if they were interested. This was an information item.

CRITICAL THINKING

Cecil brought up the fact that the bathrooms at the park were not opened and wanted The Community Voice to provide funding for someone to clean the bathrooms. It was decided that it was the Town of Dove Creek's responsibility to maintain the restrooms but the community would like for the bathrooms to be left open. Ellen volunteered to bring the restrooms up at the next Town workshop. None of the other Resident Team Members had anything to discuss for Critical Thinking.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.