

The Rico Center Board Meeting

Thursday, August 19th, 2019

6:30 pm

Location: Florence Ezell's House

1. **Call to Order/Roll call.** Cristal called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM. Cristal Hibbard, Laura Pick, Gretchen Treadwell, Florence Ezell, Katie Stokes were present as was Emily Nolan and Clay Hall.
2. **Approval of June 13th, 2019 Meeting Minutes.** Cristal moved to approve the June meeting minutes. Gretchen seconded. Unanimous.
3. **Approval of Agenda.** Cristal recommended an executive session be added after Clay presents his Fall Fling application. Board agreed. Cristal moved to approve the minutes with the addition of the executive session. Katie seconded. Unanimous.
4. **Review of Fall Fling Application.** Discussion began with inquiry on the Blanche Foundation's interest in Rico. Clay presented the history of Foundation and his connection with Foundation executive Amy Fordham. Recommendation was made to contact the Rico Women's Club to discuss the Fall Fling's opportunity to coincide with the Chili Cook Off & Fun Run weekend. Clay explained goal of 150 attendees drawn from Rico, Cortez, Dolores and Telluride marketed through social media and posters designed by Clay's Osprey contact. Garbage clearing assistance by RFPD, street parking, alcohol permitting, stages and bands including local young musicians Violet and Cedar were discussed. Clay shared that while there is much local support and excitement for this event, the tentative desired weekend of Sept 28th-29th presents an issue as many locals willing to volunteer will be out of town. Collaborating with Telluride's Cars & Colors was discussed as a great way to pull tourists to Rico. Details related to local lodging and catering for out of town talent were yet to be finalized. Board expressed their concern with the short timeline leading up to a new event in Rico and concern with the number of local residents that will be out of town during the presented weekend. Board agreed a Fall Fling in Rico has much potential and thanked Clay for his time and effort put into organizing details and presenting the application.
5. **Executive Session.** Board agreed the timeline for finalizing details and executing organization of the event is very tight and expressed concern with potential for pulling off a successful event in given timeline. Board also agreed a Fall Fling in Rico makes a lot of sense and think its a great way to support the Rico community. Board would like to encourage Clay to run a "grassroots" type smaller event this year with funds he has already successfully captured and reapply during the next grant cycle. Cristal moved to approve this communication with Clay. Florence seconded. Unanimous.
6. **Old Business.**
 - a. **Recap on Fourth of July.** Board agreed event was successful, new bus with logo was well received, collaboration with RTA vehicles and equipment worked well for all and level of involvement in the parade was appropriate.
 - b. **Recap on BOCC Meeting.** Attending Board members gave a brief overview of the concerns presented by local resident, the supportive response given by the BOCC Board and clarification offered to said resident by the county's lawyer.

Cristal shared her follow up conversation with county lawyer regarding the Engel House and clarification of legal and responsible ownership and management of the house. Board discussed potential opportunities for the house including a museum or visitor's center. The Board agrees that the current ownership structure with The Historical Society has not been overall successful. Cristal moved to start conversations with the Town to explore better options to benefit the future potential of the Engel House. Gretchen seconded. Unanimous.

7. New Business

- a. **Rico Historical Society.** Emily shared that the RHS has elected Sue Hunt as the accountant and that she has reached out regarding an Alpine Bank account which they manage for the Engel House. The Historical Society would like to resign management of these funds. The Board explained that these grant funds can either be returned to TRC general fund or may continue to be managed by RHS. Follow up with Barb Turrin is needed. Emily will contact her.
- b. **New Board Members.** The Rico Center has one Board member position open. Lasha Farrer and Nic Cepeda have both expressed interest and will be invited to the next meeting.
- c. **New Potential Grant Applicants.** Geneva Shaunette and Hayley Nenadal reached out to a Board member inquiring about TRC's potential for involvement with a project at the Rico Theater which includes creating a non-profit to run a community center in the space. The Board discussed ways in which it could support the project and suggested collaboration with other organizations such as KSJD and Artists of Rico. Katie will respond to inquiry elaborating on application requirements, explaining limitations, and encouraging them to apply in upcoming grant cycle.
Barb Turrin reached out to Board with an inquiry on supporting a potential project for children at the Community Church. Board will reach out to lawyer regarding legality of grant funds being awarded to a church organization and follow up.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.

Next Meeting is the annual public meeting held September 19th at the Courthouse.

Approved the 19th day of September, 2019.

Attest: 