

Greeley Downtown Alliance Meeting

February 17th, 2017 ~ Warm Hugs Mixes & Gifts Boutique ~ 8am

Attendees: Jim Sereff, Mark Fogue, Pam Bricker, Karen Baumgartner, Alison Hamling, Francis Denning, Suzanne Sereff, Beth Sereff, Vanessa Foster, Peggy Lynn, Verniece Thomas, Phil White, Linda Winter, Meighen MacGregor, Susan Haskins, Susan Herold, Cindy Osborne, Jessi Howell, Mary Roberts, Paul Hlad, Stephen Coppick

- Welcome from Jim Sereff, GDA chair
- Welcome from Suzanne Sereff, host
 - Thank you to Woody's Newsstand for providing coffee and goodies. Warm Hugs has also whipped up a couple of their bread mixes
- Mark Fogue with the Greeley Police Department gave an update on the 3 additional officers that would be stationed Downtown
 - There are 11 new officers in training now. Once they are done with training, the Greeley Police Department will be moving the additional 3 officers Downtown.
 - School Resource Officers will also be back on their bicycles Downtown after school is out.
- Everyone introduced themselves to the group
- DDA update from Pam Bricker:
 - The Bar.Ber.Shop has opened on 10th Avenue & 16th Street (behind the Farmer's Pantry)
 - Mystical Threads on 9th Avenue next to Sassy Bagz will be holding their Grand Opening this Saturday from Noon-4pm
 - Azucar Espresso Bar is open in Joe Molina Gallery and Studios – Monday-Friday 7:30am-3pm
 - The Golden Tree Moroccan Imports now open on 9th Avenue in the old Mary's Mountain Cookies location
 - Coming soon is Aunt Helen's Coffee Shop in the 8th and 8th Building
 - School District 6 has approved the Fred Tjardes School of Innovation which will be in the old Right To Read building
 - There are very few openings left downtown...former Warm Hugs location on 9th Ave., building next to The Nerd Store on 8th St., and the 8th & 8th building wants ground floor retail. If you know of anyone looking for a space, let us know and we will help them out if we can.
 - Are working with the City to develop a permanent parking committee comprised of all the major players that will meet quarterly
 - The Homeless Coalition is forming a county wide group
 - 100th Anniversary of the Weld County Courthouse will be June 30th. There will be a full day of tours and they are partnering with Friday Fest
 - Pam will be out of the country for two weeks starting Sunday
- Experience update from Alison Hamling:
 - Be sure to use Facebook and check in at locations when you are Downtown
 - Working on activating 16th Street corridor with a night dedicated to UNC music
 - Blarney on the Block is on March 11th. It will begin at 2pm with Step Dancers, the parade starts at 2:30pm and there will be activities on the 9th Street Plaza until 6pm
 - Hearts and Tails Carriage Company is no longer in Northern Colorado. Met with Moonlight Carriage Company out of Nunn. They have several carriages and can do more than one event at a time.
 - We are looking for volunteers for upcoming events. Please let us know if you have anyone who would be interested in helping.

- Monster Day will be August 26th and lots of fun is being planned
- Friday Fest start in June and have sent out band invitations for the summer
- First Friday on March 3rd will feature the District 6 & Friends Arts Walk at 24 locations around Downtown. If you are a participating location, please pick up your poster and some event flyers before leaving the meeting today.
- Membership Update from Karen Baumgartner:
 - Reminded everyone that we are now working on membership for the year and are asking everyone to get their membership forms and checks in by March 1st. Membership forms were passed around to everyone and it was noted that the membership this year is the same as last year.
- Follow Up To Last Month's Planning/Brainstorming Of New Ideas from Jim Sereff:
 - At the January meeting the idea came up to do a "Passport To Fun" event where participating businesses would stay open late once a month. Mary Roberts, Linda Winter and Suzanne Sereff have been working on this and would like to do the first one on Thursday, April 27th. Karen will send out an e-mail to potential businesses to see who would be interested in participating and to find out if it would be something they would do monthly.
 - This event would be a good start to getting more people into stores and if you have any more ideas or what ifs, let us know your thoughts.
- SBDC Tip of The Month from Vanessa Foster:
 - Check out Canva.com for free design templates. This useful tool will allow you to design flyers, business cards, invitations, resumes, etc. All you have to do is sign in, pick your design and pick your elements. You can have 10 people on your account for free.
- Announcements
 - East Colorado SDBC Seminar on "Secrets to an Ethical Workplace Culture" on the UNC Campus on Thursday, February 23rd. Open to students and businesses. One person will win a class who will write a Code of Ethics for your business.
 - Imagine Greeley workshop on March 3rd from 9am-4pm at Aims Community College. For anyone interested but unable to commit to the full day workshop, there will be an Open House from 4-6pm.
 - Peggy Ford Waldo will do a book signing tomorrow at Owlz Emporium of Used Books located in the Lincoln Park Emporium.
 - Lincoln Park Emporium, Miss Mary's Kitchen and Owlz Emporium of Used Books has started doing more events...the last Saturday of February will feature a Cooking Class led by Roger Brindisi and the 3rd Thursday in March will feature a collaborative effort with Syntax Spirits Distillery.
 - Bean Plant Studio will host Lydia's Fundraiser for NGAE and CFSGWC on Saturday from 1-3pm and the March First Friday will feature the District 6 kids and an Irish Session.
 - Award Alliance has their new catalog of products in and items can be customized
 - The United Way's Mad Hatter Ball will be March 18th. Verniece has contacted several businesses regarding a donation but was that the GDA or DDA could take on the job of creating one big basket related to Downtown.
 - GPO - March 3rd-4th will present West Side Story in conjunction with, April 8th will be their Family Day featuring Food Trucks and a Petting Zoo and April 1st is the 3rd Annual Greeley Beer & Spirits Festival at the Garage Creative Co-Op
- Other
 - Mary Roberts reminded everyone to develop and send press releases for all of your events.

- The United Way has a volunteer coordinator (Tara) who can help get volunteers for events.
- Alison mentioned that we are looking to revitalize the Bear Biz Program and we did find out that, for a \$100 fee, businesses can become a carrier of UNC Licensed Merchandise.
- Susan Herold was wondering if we had a contact for Union Pacific so that we could organize a clean-up day
- Jim Sereff's quote of the day: "Believe You Can Do It And You're Half Way There"
- Meeting adjourned a few minutes before 9am

Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

- Friday, March 17th, 2017 at 8am at the Bean Plant Studio (701 7th Street)
- Friday, April 21st, 2017 at the Lincoln Park Library (1012 11th Street)