

PLEASE READ AND PASS ON

MINUTES
FORTUNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
February 10, 2020

The February 10, 2020, meeting of the Fortuna Chamber of Commerce was called to order by Vice Chair Kelly Isaacson with 25 persons present.

Correspondence included the following announcements: Fortuna Senior Scene; Gene Lucas Community Center; American Pickers; Compass Community Credit Union press release; City of Fortuna press release; Fortuna Fabrics class calendar; Ferndale Jewelers ad; Garcia's Florist ad; Rio Dell-Scotia Chamber of Commerce; Fortuna Library; Benbow Historic Inn All Counties Mixer; Fortuna PD; Fortuna Chamber Candidate Forum; and various articles from the Times-Standard.

Kelly Isaacson thanked Ridgetop Cafe for lunch.

Renee Lindsay announced that there was a public meeting at City Hall regarding Short Term Rentals at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11. An Ambassador lunch meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 13 at Hot Brew at 11:45 a.m. The Humboldt Association of Realtors would be hosting a Candidate Forum at the Vets Hall on February 13 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Starbucks will be hosting a Coffee with the Chief event on February 20 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The Chamber office will be closed on February 17 for President's Day.

Mike Johnson announced the next City Council meeting would be February 18 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Dianna Rios announced the Home Based Business Expo on Sunday, March 1. Dianna announced that FBID submitted a video for HGTV's *Hometown Takeover* contest. She hopes to use the video footage for other recruitment purposes.

Sean Swanson announced that River Life did additional work along Main Street and Palmer Boulevard.

Guest Speaker: Raquel Ortega, District Director, California Conservation Corps

"Hard work, low pay, miserable conditions... and more!" The California Conservation Corps is a State organization that spans all of California. This Center works north-to-south from Northern Mendocino County to the Oregon border and from the ocean to Redding. The age range of corpsmembers is 18-25 years old. Corpsmembers go through a background check and drug test. They must be open to discipline, taking orders, and hard work. They are paid on a stipend, not salary base. All work is a public service and includes salmon restoration, trail construction in both state and national parks, green building, invasive species removal, and wilderness fire response. Prop 68 funds are used to develop work in the community. It pays for labor. Recent projects have included working in Sequoia Park removing ivy and creating better trail access and working in Rohner Park removing invasive plants in the park and along the creek. They have also done projects at Bear River Rancheria and worked on the Salmon Habitat Restoration project. The John Muir Charter School at the Fortuna site offers corpsmembers an educational program that gives young people the opportunity to earn a high school diploma while working with the CCCs. Students benefit from the following special programs: CalTrans Tree Removal, Pacific Watershed Associates Fisheries Internship, the CCC's Australian Exchange, Backcountry Trails, Culinary Program, Union Apprenticeship program, and Sawyer's and Forklift certification. There is also a salmon restoration program, in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, which is available solely to veterans. Raquel thanked the Fortuna Chamber for being the only local Chamber to honor their corpsmembers each year with an appreciation party. She shared photos from the Christmas party and

said that everyone had a great time. You can reach Raquel Ortega at (707) 725-5106 or raquel.ortega@ccc.ca.gov.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Lindsay
Recording Secretary