



**Magdalena Chamber of Commerce
Board Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2015**

Present: Ted Bending, Catherine DeMaria, Danielle Fitzpatrick, Nina McCabe, Ginny Galer, John Briggs, Glenn Bigelow, Athena Gassoumis, Linda Mansell and Jennifer Kent

Call to Order: Catherine called the meeting to order at 6:08p.m.

Minutes: December minutes were reviewed, no corrections were found. Ted moved to approve the minutes. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Ted handed out the closing Treasurer's report and announced that there were no outstanding bills. The income for the month was \$814.53. This figure includes \$449.53 in Lodgers' Tax, nine new memberships and a \$50 donation. The debit column totaled \$552.26, leaving a balance of \$1138.36. Danielle made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report, seconded by Nina. Motion passed.

Presidents Report: Catherine gave a synopsis of the past year's activities, the evaluations and outcomes of these efforts. The visuals were provided on a storyboard by Danielle. Some of the efforts were Shop Magdalena, Gateway to the Stars, partnering with the VLA for 2015 Enchanted Skies, Magdalena Open Studio and Gallery Tours, contributions by the Mageboard, the hefty sponsorship from the SEC (\$700) and the 40+ members (up 400%). Danielle spoke about the overall vision for 2015: a continuation of the efforts to partner with the VLA, the Village, MRO, etc; the need for a printed business/service directory; networking events aimed at the membership.

Election of new Officers: The following were nominated, accepted and voted in as the 2015 Officers of the Magdalena Chamber of Commerce:

President – Catherine DeMaria

Vice President – Ginny Galer

Treasurer – Glenn Bigelow

Secretary – Jennifer Kent

BoardMember– John Briggs

Formation of Committees: The boards, both former and present discussed the need for special focus committees. Although the bulk of those committees has yet to be fleshed out the Chairs are as follows:

Art – Catherine DeMaria

Grant Writing – open

Star Parties – John Briggs

Overall Economic Development – Ginny Galer

Website – Glenn Bigelow

Membership - open

Membership "Meet and Greet": Danielle spearheaded this conversation. A late February date with a wine/cheese party atmosphere was favored. This discussion was tabled.

Discover Socorro Ad: Catherine stated that the salesperson for the "Discover Socorro" travel annual was asking for our renewal. Last year's cost was discounted to \$1,900 for our usual centerfold, but the

publisher won't disclose where they are distributing. The board still has two boxes of last year's edition. The notion of canceling the ad was entertained, but a more moderate approach was moved and approved unanimously. We will be running a vertical half page featuring the new stargazing cowboy brochure. Glenn will work up the ad to be submitted.

Input from membership: Nina is working on her new website MadeinMagdalena.net. "Showcasing what people make by hand in Magdalena". This can include all artists and makers from our community. Nina talked about grants from the Department of Tourism. They begin accepting applications on February 1, for events scheduled from July 1 through October 31. These can be used to build a website, rent heaters, tents, amenities, etc. needed to create an event and promote tourism in our community.

Glenn asked for a review of the bylaws. This has been added to the next agenda.

Adjournment: With no further member input and announcements, Catherine made a motion to adjourn, Glenn seconded. Next scheduled board meeting is Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Catherine DeMaria, President

Date