

**ASPEN CHAMBER RESORT ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
May 31, 2011**

Call to order: ACRA chair Warren Klug called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

Attendance: Those present were Warren Klug, Donnie Lee, Stan Clauson, Carol Hood, Helen Klanderud, Bobbie Burkley, Jeanette Darnauer, Adam Fortier, Kenny Smith, Cristal Logan, Bryan Nelson, David Ressler, Laura Smith, David Perry, John Speers, Mick Ireland, Michael Owsley and John Maloy. Absent: Charlie Bantis, Nina Eisenstat, Senih Geray, Heather Kemp, Jenna Weatherred, Susan Hamley and Bill Tomcich. Guests: Eric Hietala, Torre. Staff: Debbie Braun, Julia Theisen, Erik Klanderud, Michelle Miller, Dorothy Frommer and Greg Fitzsimmons.

Approval of April 26, 2011 minutes: The board unanimously approved the April 26, 2011 minutes with two corrections – omit “conference” following “(CCCE)” in President’s Comments and add “to” in the sentence that begins “Warren would like...” in New Business from the April 26, 2011 minutes.

Presentation: Eric Hietala, the Regional Vice President for Signature Flight Support, presented an introduction to his company. Hietala also introduced possible ways in which Signature Flight Support might provide a more efficient and streamlined travel experience for visitors to Aspen that are staying in a local hotel, lodge, or bed & breakfast via an arrival/departure baggage service. At the end of Hietala’s presentation and the subsequent discussion it was proposed that representatives from Aspen’s lodging community meet with Eric Hietala at a to-be-determined date to have an in-depth discussion and ask questions that are unique to Aspen.

For more information about Signature Flight Support, please visit www.signatureflight.com.

Chair’s comments: Warren wished Michelle Miller a goodbye as she prepares for her maternity leave. Warren thanked Michelle for her contributions to ACRA, presented her with a bouquet of flowers, and looks forward to Michelle’s return to ACRA in three months. He thanked Jeannette Darnauer for her integral involvement with the P&Z meetings and airport expansion. Warren congratulated ACRA’s Membership Department for their “Get Found” Membership Campaign that is currently underway, and he encouraged business owners to have at least one employee attend the upcoming Hospitality Training Day (on June 7th), saying, “it will be a really valuable effort to get someone from your staff [at the training].”

President’s comments: Debbie reminded everyone to bring an ID on Friday, June 17th to receive their passes for the FOOD & WINE Classic in Aspen. Debbie also said that the membership campaign is going strong and renewals are looking good. Lastly, Braun asked that people use the new Business Directory, which is available throughout town and at ACRA’s offices, as it is a valuable and comprehensive resource for the local business community.

Finance committee update: With Charlie Bantis unable to attend, Adam Fortier acknowledged that everything is on budget, and that the finance committee recently approved a capital expenditure up to \$5,000 for two chamber scooters.

Nominating committee update: Stan Clauson directed everyone to a page in the meeting’s packet that was a slate with the proposed and approved Board of Directors officers – Warren Klug (Chair), Donnie Lee (Vice Chair), David Perry (Secretary), Helen Klanderud (Assistant Secretary), Charlie Bantis (Treasurer), Adam Fortier (Assistant Treasurer), and Stan Clauson (Chair Emeritus). The term for this slate of officers will run through April 2012.

New Business: None

Old Business: AACP update and discussion: ACRA representatives presented three proposed changes to the current draft of the AACP, which were dismissed. Tenor: Advisory vs Regulatory. White Paper update: Economic study of current climate would cost \$10,000-12,000 and take around 4 weeks by a third-party to conduct; ACRA discussed splitting the cost with another entity. Economy and moderate lodging. 100% housing mitigation. White Paper update. Mass and scale compatibility. AACP is “foundation document” and ACRA wants it to be successful. Warren Klug also addressed the immigration legalization reform and presented a proposed resolution. “This is an employer and business issue as much as anything else,” said Warren Klug. “Obviously the current system isn’t working,” said Helen Klanderud. In the end, the ACRA Board of Directors decided to

put more time into the direction of the Employee Legalization Reform Resolution and the topic will be at the top of next month's meeting agenda.

New Business:

Director's comments: Cristal Logan – The Aspen Institute sent the AACP links to the non-profit (primarily arts and culture) community and encouraged representatives to send their feedback to City Council. “We’ll be more active,” said Logan. Kenny Smith – Met with Heather Kemp, Bobbie Burkley, and Erik Klanderud recently and downtown retail vacancies look to be down 50%. John Speers – The Aspen BBQ is in the approval process; “we’ve addressed a lot of the local feedback we’ve received,” said Speers. The venue for the Aspen BBQ has been changed to Monarch St, they’ve included “local talent” with inclusion of the Hickory House, the event will run until 6 p.m. in order to not infringe on business with local restaurants if approved by the city. Warren Klug – The last week of August is shaping up to be very active, when it traditionally has been slow with The Komen, USA Pro Cycling Challenge, and Aspen BBQ. Stan Clauson – Thanked the city for putting together a day of criterium bike racing, and regarding the AACP dialogue said, “Open debate will only make our community a better place.”

Adjournment: 10:43 a.m.