

Visit Manitou Springs

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: February 19, 2026

Present: Chris Dwyer, April Hall, Farley McDonough, Rachel Milar, Annie Schmitt, Angela Wilks

Absent: Ted Johnson

Guests: Gloria Latimer

Staff: Hallie Gurba, Jesse McCoy, Monica Rozelle, Jenna Wells

A regular meeting of the Visit Manitou Springs Board of Directors was held on Thursday, **February 19, 2026, 515 Manitou Ave.** The meeting was called to order at **8:32am** by **President April Hall.**

A. Jenna gathered volunteer hours for January and February from the Board of Directors.

B. City Council Update: Gloria Latimer reminded everyone that there is a meeting tonight at 5:30pm in City Hall regarding the Hiawatha Gardens Parking Lot updates. The new kiosks will be put in by early spring, but no timeframe has been given. A survey from the City to the community will be sent out mid-March via text message and they will offer a paper option. Their goal is to receive 500 responses. Prior to the survey being sent out they will mail a postcard to residents so that they are aware of the incoming text message.

C. Events Update: Hallie Gurba presented the Board of Directors with updates from The Great Fruitcake Toss and the Mumbo Jumbo Gumbo Cookoff. The fruitcake toss had approximately 300 attendees and brought in \$1,099 in ticket sales. We had 15 chefs for the gumbo cookoff this year with sponsorships totaling \$1,350 and 4,200 tickets sold for samples. Thank you letters to sponsors for both events have been mailed out. Wine Festival tickets were put on sale for Valentine's Day with successful sales.

D. CRANE/URA Update: Farley McDonough said that the URA is working on a façade grant which will be used to help businesses improve properties for up to \$20,000. They met with the Planning Commission regarding the height and density code. Downtown Colorado Inc. is taking place April 1 – 4 in Grand Junction this year, and Farley is asking for donations for the gift basket raffle. There are 7 people from Manitou Springs attending this conference. CRANE will not hear back regarding the MACH grant approval for a few more weeks. As a reminder, Audrey Gray will be out on medical leave from March 5 – 24. The summer project for CRANE is a second Phone Booth, which will be located inside the Manitou Art Center.

E. Marketing Update: Jesse McCoy went over the Marketing Budget Adjustment Proposal, which took funds from unutilized areas and moved them to new prospective partners for creating ad

campaigns. The Visitor Guide's physical proof arrives on February 20, 2026, which means once it is read through and the proof is approved, it will take 2-3 weeks for the boxes of guides to arrive. Jesse will create a trackable QR code for businesses so that they can print it out for visitors to scan, which will take them to our website and the online Visitors Guide.

Action Items:

F. Approval of January Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Annie Schmitt and seconded by Angela Wilks to approve January's meeting minutes AFTER the correction of Hallie Gurba's name spelling. Motion passed.

G. Approval of January Financial Statement: Some minor adjustments may need to be made in the future regarding the communications and phone line budget. A motion to approve January financials made by Angela and seconded by Rachel Milar. Motion passed.

H. Approval of New and Renewing Members List: Jenna Wells went over the new membership application, which was Republic Services. Motion to approve Republic Service as a new member was made by Farley and seconded by Chris Dwyer.

New Business

I. CRANE "Pizza Duck" sales: April Hall discussed the fact that people have requested purchasing the "pizza ducks" that Audrey painted for the Visitor Center and the "Duck Stop." They are the intellectual property of the Chamber of Commerce and the physical property of CRANE, so CRANE will work on a written document that will go over who can purchase ducks, if they want to sell them.

Old Business

J. Gateway Sign Design: Continuing feedback from the Board of Directors on the design, so once it's finalized it will be presented to City Council.

K. 2026 Goals: For 2026, the goals will be split into 3 different categories. Jenna will provide updates based on feedback from the Board of Directors.

L. Destination Development Mentor Grant: Jenna reminded everyone to fill out the community survey that was sent out. Amy, the mentor provided to us, is going to begin setting up in-person meetings. She is planning to attend the Diamond Jubilee event. The "Do Manitou Right" logos have been made by the Colorado Tourism Office.

M. Chat With the Chamber: The next Chat with the Chamber meeting is March 19, 2026, at 8:30am located at the Loft Espresso. Nate Nassif will be presenting at this meeting.

Having no additional business before the board, **Farley** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by **Annie** at **10:42am**.