



The Summit Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting Agenda
July 9, 2025 | 9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.
Mount Royal Room at the County Commons (door code:4160#)

Mission | To ensure business success for our members and foster community wide economic vitality by providing resources, educational opportunities, and business connections. We unite key stakeholders. We lead with a clear vision of the future. And we support collaborative efforts throughout the community.

Vision | To be the driving force behind the success of all Summit County businesses.

Staff

Cheri Ryan, Executive Director
Austyn Terry/Sarah McPhee-Finance
Alex Capel, Membership Coord.

Executive Committee

Ian Donovan, President
Peter Siegel, President Elect
Lori Gleason, Secretary
Corry Mihm, At-Large
Al Bacher, Treasurer
Nell Wareham, Past President

Vanessa Agee
Tim Applegate
Allen Bacher
Del Bush
Paul Clukies
Lindsey Cotton
Athena Damianos
Bruce Horii
Seth Konkell
Matt Louterback
Eric Mamula
Blair McGary
Corry Mihm
Peyton Rogers
Maja Russer
Catherine Schaaf

1. Consent Agenda (5 minutes)

- a. Minutes – Attached
- b. Financials – Attached
- c. Membership Update – Attached

2. Executive Director's Report (30 minutes)

- a. 4th of July
- b. Committees
- c. Summit Exit Planning Seminar
- d. NPO membership needs
- e. Head Shots and Bios

3. Committee Updates (25 minutes)

- a. COO Committee –
- b. Investment Committee – Al Bacher
- c. Legislative Affairs Committee –

4. Events Updates

- i. Keystone Wine and Jazz (July 12 & 13) 14 spots to fill!
<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/5081567601/false#/invitation>
- ii. Mixer Updates – June was a great turnout!
 - 1. July 9 – Arapahoe Basin (4-7 pm)
 - 2. Aug 13 – The Block, Silverthorne
 - 3. Sept 11 - iFurnish

5. Commissioner's Report (10 Minutes)

6. Board Round Table (20 minutes)

- a. Breck
- b. Copper
- c. Dillon
- d. Frisco
- e. Keystone
- f. Silverthorne

NEXT BOARD MEETING: August 13th 9:00 a.m, Mount Royal Room County Commons
Door Code for August: 7925#

Attachments;

Agenda
June Minutes
Membership Report
Financials



The Summit Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2025 | 9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M

Mount Royal Room at the County Commons

Mission | To ensure business success for our members and foster community wide economic vitality by providing resources, educational opportunities, and business connections. We unite key stakeholders. We lead with a clear vision and future. And we support collaborative efforts throughout the community. **Vision** | To be the driving force behind the success of all Summit County Businesses

In Attendance

Staff

Cheri Ryan, Executive Director
Alex Capel, Membership
Coordinator

Executive Committee

Ian Donovan, President
~~Peter Siegel~~, President-Elect
Lori Gleason, Secretary
~~Al Bacher~~, Treasurer
Corry Mihm, At Large
~~Nell Wareham~~, Past-President

~~Vanessa Agee~~
~~Tim Applegate~~
~~Allen Bacher~~
Del Bush
Paul Clukies
Lindsey Cotton
Athena Damianos
~~Tony Pestello~~
Bruce Horii
Seth Konkell
Matt Louthierback
~~Eric Mamula~~
Blair McGary
Corry Mihm
Peyton Rogers
Maja Russer
Catherine Schaaf

1. Consent Agenda (5 minutes)

- a. Minutes – Attached
- b. Financials – Attached
- c. Membership Update – Attached

Cheri was in class all week but getting financials from Sarah McPhee

****Seth Konkell motions to approve the consent agenda; Ian Donovan seconds the motion.***

2. Executive Director's Report – Cheri Ryan (30 minutes)

a) Professional Development

i. Economic Development Class

Cheri completed the Economic Development class last week, joined by individuals from Small Towns and StartUp Colorado. Her attendance was made possible thanks to support from Climax and Nell.

ii. Academy

Cheri will attend the WACE Academy in San Fran this August

b) Talent Summit

- o On June 3rd, Cheri and Nina attended the Regional Talent Summit in Eagle, alongside five representatives from Summit County. The event, part of the Opportunity Now Grant, brought together stakeholders from across the region to brainstorm long-term solutions for workforce development and housing. A 3 to 5-year regional action plan is in the works, and Cheri will remain involved. She encouraged continued Chamber participation.
- o The importance of industry-specific networking was emphasized to help businesses connect and better understand each other's workforce needs, creating an opportunity for the Chamber to be more present as a liaison/networking facilitator. Cheri suggested reforming the slowing chapter meetings as Industry Roundtables to foster collaboration, including with out-of-state organizations that bring in seasonal employees needed during peak season. She mentioned Connecting Colorado, a platform that links employers with job seekers, and suggested promoting it through the Chamber outlets. Cheri also proposed a monthly new member introduction, potentially in board meetings (just as an introduction, not in a presentation format) or mixers (as a sponsorship opportunity).



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b) *Talent Summit (Continued)*

- A legislative-related question was raised, inquiring about employment challenges, particularly around international and visa workers. Cheri noted this underscores the need for strong industry roundtables. The board discussed that the ski industry/resorts may start to feel this strain more acutely, and the Chamber is here to engage more actively with them. A suggestion was made for job seekers to post a short “bio” to promote their skills through the Chamber. Cheri mentioned connections with Mountain Careers and/or the Colorado Workforce Center for this kind of networking. Ian suggested creating a member benefit that helps businesses put employment “feelers” into the community.
- It was noted that many small businesses lack internal HR support, and Freeport was noted as a successful example of how one company has filled positions, suggesting others could learn from companies like this for HR resources. A question was posed about what a comprehensive rollout would look like, with a suggestion to possibly lead a committee on the topic. Cheri proposed also bringing in two CLE speakers, after their informative NWCCOG presentations. The board asked for ideas on who takes ownership of this. Mountain Careers was proposed, with a member noting previous experience and suggesting a direct link from the Chamber website. Another resource suggested was Andrew Hudson. Ian asked for a meeting to integrate new ideas into existing efforts. Corry encouraged utilizing multiple outlets, and Cheri highlighted Aryn’s Mountain Careers webinar and regional collaboration. She noted that Summit has been underutilizing these resources compared to other counties.

c) *Committees*

i. Structure & Goals

Cheri introduced the idea of creating three main committees. Committees would include 2–3 board members and 2–3 general members with a one-year commitment. Committee work may occur during a select amount of time of board meetings to reduce overall workload on everyone’s plate.

- Be Local Committee & Campaign – Led by Seth and to be timed with active shop local campaigns; Seth expands on the Be Local Campaign and how things can start tying into it
- Membership Committee – Includes Alex and board members; an effort to hold meetings with business owners to see what the industry specific membership needs are and to restructure by 2026. This one may be more labor intensive
- Bylaws Committee – Blair volunteered to lead and/or support this committee and Peter is nominated to be on this committee as well
- A potential 4th Committee on Workforce Development is being considered.

ii. Board Discussion

The board discussed the difference between chapter meetings and town meetings, concluding that each town faces distinct issues (e.g., Breckenridge sign codes). They noted that town councils hold legislative authority, and that originally, each town had its



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own chamber of commerce. The chapters were a “compromise” formed when individual town chambers merged into a countywide organization.

- Acknowledging the complexity of serving a geographically and economically diverse region, the board emphasized the importance of staying mindful of those nuances and approaching these spaces with calm and collaboration. Cheri added that while needs vary by town and industry, sharing ideas across groups can be beneficial to all.
- Several board members noted that previous committee participation has declined over time and asks how to keep momentum going. Ian emphasized setting achievable, actionable goals for the rest of the year. The board asks if this is in addition to the existing committees and Cheri notes it is more of a revamping while also mentioning there is no immediate need for an Events Committee due to strong events staff coverage in that area.
- The importance in clearly differentiating between committees (strategic planning) and task forces (execution) to aid staff implementation was brought up. The marketing, legislative, and COO committees are highlighted key areas for this action and attention.
- Cheri emphasized the value of member ideas and offered to schedule committee meetings around board members' availability, offering to periodically meet with committee chairs to track progress and share updates with the board and group.
- The following Committee Goal timelines were discussed:
 - Membership Committee: by October
 - Bylaws Committee: by November
 - Be Local Campaign: by Black Friday (November)

iii. Enhancing Mixers: Format, Structure, and Sponsorship

- The success of the Builders Association in coordinating mixers—where hosts and sponsors are distinct—was highlighted and widely supported. For example, sponsors like Xcel Energy provide prizes and content around pre-announced topics that generate community interest and boost attendance and engagement.
- Ian raised the idea of giving town officials a platform to speak at these events. The importance of balancing social and professional elements was emphasized, along with the Chamber's role in facilitating both. A consistent venue was discussed, as well as the idea of rotating the format quarterly between social and business-focused events, led by the Membership Committee.
- Discussion around the cost and structure of mixers included:
 - Pre-defined speaker time and topics
 - Featuring programs in pre-event marketing
 - Ensuring sponsors who pay for exposure receive it
- Additional suggestions included reviewing invite lists to grow attendance and improve topic relevance, inviting nonprofits, and integrating chapter concepts by distinguishing between informational chapter meetings and activity-driven mixers.
- **As an actionable start** Cheri suggested reaching out to summer hosts to align on a planned discussion topic—potentially beginning with the August mixer at The Block.



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d) *NPOs for Membership*

Cheri reminds the board that our premium members have the included benefit of sponsoring an NPO (of their choice) at the bronze level and included the waitlist in board materials

Cheri also notes the \$199 pricing for anyone to sponsor an NPO's Base level membership

- o Paul offered to sponsor Breck Film/Eclipse Theatre and Blair offered to sponsor High Country Conservation, which is currently self-funded. Cheri emailed out a list of NPOs in need of sponsorship

3. Existing Committee Updates

a) *COO Committee* – No update

b) *Investment Committee* – *Al Bacher*

c) *Legislative Affairs Committee* – No update

4. Event Updates

i. 4th of July Beer Tent – volunteers needed

ii. Keystone Wine and Jazz volunteers **NEEDED**

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/5081567601/false#/invitation>

iii. Mixer Updates –

1. May 22 – (Frisco Inn on Galena) May Mixer was a little slower, but had GREAT reviews on the inclusion of Mountain Careers facilitated Speed Networking and Highside Brewing was a hit!

2. June 26 – Copper Mountain (2-5 pm) Alex and Jen will be helping in person, Cheri will be out of town (extra volunteer help is needed)

3. July 9 – Arapahoe Basin (4-7 pm)

4. AC Mariott/The Block – Tentatively August 12th

5. Commissioner's Report – No Update

6. Board Round Table (5 minutes)

a) *Breckenridge* – *Peyton Rogers*

The town council came to a phase 1 development agreement on Runway. Farmer's market kicks off, and Breck Tourism Office meets tomorrow surrounding future tourism plans

b) *Copper* – *No updates*

c) *Dillon* – *No Updates*

d) *Frisco* – *No Updates*

e) *Keystone* – *Maja Russer*



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Bacon & Bourbon is coming up, and the gondola will be running Thursday and El Passo Lasso will kick-off the Friday party. FDRD is the partnered nonprofit for this event while the Chamber is the beneficiary for Keystone Wine & Jazz volunteer signups, noting highschoolers may be needed to fill empty spots. The 4th of July programming includes NRO

f) *Silverthorne – Bruce Horii*

The long-awaited Trent Park opening was a success.

**The idea of a topic/goal at the board meetings was briefly discussed including the Chamber representing the voice of businesses and level of town representation/involvement is important to further discuss*

****Ian Donovan motions to adjourn, Lori Gleason seconds the motion***

NEXT BOARD MEETING: July 9th, 9:00 am, Mount Royal Room County Commons (Door Code : 4160#)