Newberry Springs Chamber of Commerce

RTCA Meeting Notes

September 10, 2024, 11:00 a.m.

Newberry Community Service District (NCSD) Center

**Attendees**: Margie Roberts, NCSD Director; Jane Brockhurst, Main Street Murals Director; Gwen Patrick Foundation for Future Generations Co-Founder; Pastor Charles Patrick, Newberry Springs Economic Development Association Director; Carlos Flores, National Park Service Landscape Architect; Rose Beardshear, Newberry Springs Chamber of Commerce President.

While waiting for everyone to arrive there was discussion of all the surrounding points of interest including: Mitchell Caverns, Amboy Crater, Mojave Trails National Park, Pisgah Crater, Newberry Mountain Wilderness, Rodman Mountain Wilderness, and the California Route 66 National Scenic Byway. Rose will send Carlos a map that MSM produced of nearby recreation sites. She will also send him a video clip of the Pistachio Festival so he can see the scope of the event along with the Cal Poly Pomona project and the NCSD Civic Hub proposal. He is an instructor at Cal Poly Pomona and their may be some partnership opportunities there.

Carlos explained the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program to the group and that Recreation and Conservation are the primary focus of the program. Carlos works for the National Park Service and is based in Los Angeles along with one other staff member. Carlos said that there were 30 RTCA applicants and that it was a very competitive process. There were 25 projects selected and we were assigned Carlos based on his expertise with landscape architecture.

Our deliverables include: a park concept plan, stake holder engagement, community outreach and an implementation plan.

Each partner introduced themselves and described their contribution to the project. We have one year to complete the deliverables. The NCSD parkland improvement project is 1 of 7 projects assigned to Carlos. He has 240 hours allocated to our project. Our next meeting in person with Carlos will focus on the workplan at the CSD building on October 1, 2024, from 11-2 p.m. The Chamber will provide Subway sandwiches. The partners decided that we would meet without Carlos prior to 10/1 to work on the Mission, Vision and Goals of the project on 9/24/24 at 9 a.m. at the CSD building. Carlos will send examples.