**Chaffee County Community Foundation**

**Kick-off Meeting**

**March 27, 2018**

Participating:

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| Ed Cooper | Rick Hum |
| Greg Felt | Lisa Martin |
| Wendy Hall | Sydney Schnurr |
| Michael Hannigan | Cindy Williams |

Agreement that CCCF should be the umbrella organization in Chaffee County to help minimize duplication of effort of various smaller groups already working throughout the County. Central point for information, funding, investment, development of culture of giving, and options for development.

Positives:

* Current longstanding donor base and giving culture,
* County has many retirees, who have experience, resources, skills, learned wisdom,
* Others not living here yet, their second home, want to be involved, but don’t have the time; would donate to causes of interest,
* The way the workforce is changing: young professionals work remotely with professional salaries and are looking for ways to “plug in” to the community.

Cautions:

* Want to avoid politicization,
* Find new revenue streams; do not take away from current donor/organization relationship,
* Organizations here are already competing for same funding.

Thoughts /

* Weave together the many small organizations,
* Collaboration; more power with sum of the parts.

Discussion:

Cindy told the group that the Lor Foundation is who made the grant to Envision; in general, Lor supports Western landscapes.

Rick brought documents related to the previous Chaffee County Community Foundation, the original Articles of Incorporation from 2006; Jerry Mallett is the Registered Agent. It was an approved 501(c)(3) still in good standing with the Secretary of State. Rick, Marjo, Jerry and Lisa Marvel (owner of Book Haven – retiring; sold shop) met recently to talk about possibly reinvigorating that CCCF. Now this group can take it and go if that is what is decided.

When Summit Foundation (former Breckenridge Foundation), was initiated, they offered a season lift ticket for donors who gave at a certain level.

Michael said providing fiscal fponsorship is a component of what the Pikes Peak Foundation did: an organization can operate under the Foundation’s 501(c)(3) status until it gets on its own feet. He suggests entrepreneurial mentoring, collaboration, and programs is a second important component.

Greg said he doesn’t want CCCF to tie too closely with Envision because Health/Social Services were not identified as important concerns out of the Envision survey of residents and workgroups. Taking care of the public lands and waters, and affordable housing / livable wages is all important, but social services must be part of the mission of the CCCF.

Opioids and addiction are a major problem in Chaffee County; must be addressed. There are people clearly falling through the cracks. Homeless people. There need to be safety nets.

Having worked in raising money for a Foundation, Michael said donors give for several reasons:

– They are asked

– They know the person asking

– They respect the person and what they are asking for

– The program has affected them, their family, people they know

Forming a relationship with donors is how they will give: “Here are the ways you can make a difference” and they will respond to what touches them.

After discussion, general agreement that because of the long backlog with the IRS, probably best to go ahead with reinstating CCCF; get the paperwork going.

Cindy said there are four individuals right now who are exploring a County tax initiative that may fund programs for such as open space.

El Pomar is a foundation not to be overlooked for requesting grants, dollars.

Next points for thought and discussion:

* Who else, what others should be included in this group
* Foundation will need seed money to get started
* Who are the Pillars of the community

**Next meeting is Thurs. Apr. 12, 9:00 am again at 6940 CR 111C**