Gunnison Crested Butte
TOURISM ASSOCIATION
COLORADO – PURE & SIMPLE

Received
County Adminstration
4/11/2014
CC: BOCC
M. Birnie

April 2, 2014

Commissioner Paula Swenson
Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners
200 E. Virginia, Suite 104
Gunnison, CO 81230

Dear Paula,

Following the January Gunnison Country Board of Directors meeting, chamber board member Jacob Callicutt was asked to coordinate a meeting between the chambers of commerce and the tourism association to discuss Visitor Information Center operations, growth strategy and (past & present) funding. We appreciate your willingness to provide an historic overview at the first meeting.

At that time, GCBTA expressed an interest in engaging a third party facilitator to help guide discussion at future meetings. We believe that hiring an impartial facilitator who has no affiliation with any of the chambers, GCBTA, local or county governments will offer a neutral perspective, help to ease tensions, ensure that participants feel heard and are part of the process and, perhaps most importantly, that the agreed goals of the meetings are achieved.

A professional facilitator will help to maximize the effectiveness of these discussions, define the desired outcome, set goals and keep us all on track. GCBTA made a preliminary inquiry to the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley about available facilitators and they have made several recommendations. If agreeable with all parties to this discussion, GCBTA will proceed to gather information about available consulting services and related costs.

Thank you again for sharing historic information about the chambers/GCTBA and for kick-starting this important conversation. We are committed to working with the chamber Visitor Information Centers to open the lines that better communication to serve our hospitality business community and the traveling public.

Yours very truly,

Jim McDonald, President
GUNNISON-CRESTED BUTTE TOURISM ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jacob Callicutt, Vice President

Jen Bickford, Secretary