

Attending: Al Hasham, Dan Dagg, Ian Batey, Christina Clarke, Rahim Khudabux, Carmen Charette, Catherine Holt, Lise Gyorkos, Mark Mawhinney, Danielle Fullwood, Kris Wirk, Mark Smith, Captain (Navy) Jason Boyd, Cheryl Wirch-Ryckman (staff).

1. Agenda/Minutes

Motion to approve agenda

Moved by Mark Smith

Seconded by Ian Batey

Carried

Addition of upcoming community events

Motion to approve minutes from previous board meeting

Moved by Lise Gyorkos

Seconded by Rahim Khudabux

Carried

2. Chair's Remarks

It has been an incredibly busy spring with top notch speakers and high attendance. It speaks well to our reputation within the community. The Chair and CEO met with the Prime Minister's office to provide insight into what is needed in our region. The review of early results from our spring membership survey show that the membership is engaged and happy with the services provided and over 50 more members participated this year over last. Preparation will begin for the next 5 year strategic plan, questionnaires to follow to engage staff, board, stakeholders and various select members and non-members. MOU with SIPP for joint membership meeting is scheduled for this week.

3. Financial Report

Financials are very positive and on track as of end of April.

Motion to approve financials presented to the Board

Moved by Kris Wirk

Seconded by Al Hasham

Carried

Annually membership dues are reviewed and increased by CPI. The voluntary charge for Economic Development is recommended to be removed and to integrate the economic development fee into the rates and treat it as we do all other Chamber expenses. Motion to be made at June meeting.

RFP responses received, reviewed and shortlisted by the staff. Select finalists will present to the finance and audit committee in June before providing a recommendation to the board.

4. CEO Remarks

Chamber KPIs are on track and tracking well in all of the categories. Election schedule reviewed with the board, 6 positions are eligible for re-election, and this will maintain a 13 person board. Board informational sessions will take place in July. The board was asked to encourage business leaders to consider serving on The Chamber board.

5. Governance

New terms, skill sets and appointment processes were developed for all committees in order to improve transparency, engagement, effectiveness and clarity for the membership and for the committee members themselves. There is a recommendation that the Governance and Executive Committee merge. Major projects undertaken by the governance committee have been completed in prior years and current workload is light. Terms of reference for all committees will be harmonized and terms defined. New Terms of Reference for the Executive and Governance Committee reviewed. The Chamber's Non-partisan policy was reviewed again in anticipation of the coming election.

Motion to combine the Governance Committee with the Executive Committee

Moved by John Wilson

Seconded by Al Hasham

Carried

Motion to approve the Executive and Governance Committee Terms of Reference

Moved by John Wilson

Seconded by Al Hasham

Carried

Discussion ensued that as needed by the Board and membership there is the flexibility to reinstate the Governance Committee

Motion to endorse the Governance Committee recommendations for committee size, term, qualifications, skills and appointments.

Moved by John Wilson

Seconded by Carmen Charette

Carried

6. Public Policy and Advocacy Committee

Presentation was made to the committee by Don Evans from Our Place on the Safe Communities advocacy pillars. He discussed the power of the Treatment Centres and Recovery Centres in order to find solutions to homelessness. The addition of speakers with expertise in each of The Chamber policy pillars has been invaluable to the committee.

Discussion around how The Chamber will leverage the upcoming election to support key advocacy issues and support a positive business environment for the whole region.

The Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce had a critical role in the BC Chamber AGM and was well respected during policy discussions. The policies endorsed by The Chamber were passed on the floor with minor modifications.

Work continues on getting government to listen to business issues relating to the Employers Health Tax. A policy was passed at the BC Chamber on the issue. The next step is to meet directly with Carole James and provide the feedback that we have received from our many members.

7. Prodigy Group

Attendance at the Mingles continues to exceed set goals. Social Media is up 50%. TP the Towns initiative has grown to 10 locations. The Prodigy Group is looking for mentors for a few members the individuals were reviewed and suggestions to be emailed to operations at The Chamber.

8. Ambassadors

Committee activities are on track and engagement with new members is going well.

9. Next Meeting – Tuesday, June 26, 2018 – half day.

Motion to adjourn

Moved by Al Hasham

Seconded by John Wilson

Carried



Secretary



Date



Chair