

GREATER VICTORIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2011 Board Meeting
08:00 hours – 25 October 2011

Present: David Marshall (Chair), George Fuller, Al Hasham, Darlene Hollstein, John Wilson, Pauline Rafferty, Gerry Brimacombe, John Espley, Ray Kolla, Kimberley Hughes, Dan Dagg, Rose Arseneault, Janell Karst, Mike Black, Kathleen Burton, David Rand, Bruce Carter (CEO), Sasha Angus (staff), Ellen Henry (staff)

Regrets: Bea Bate, Capt(N) Craig Barnes, Rob Bennett

Leave: Regan McGrath

1) Motion to approve the meeting agenda

Moved by Janell Karst
Seconded by Mike Black
Carried

2) Motion to approve consent agenda, including minutes of September 27, 2011 Board of Directors meeting.

Moved by Mike Black
Seconded by Pauline Rafferty
Carried

3) Chair's Remarks

- The Chair recounted what has been a busy fall for the Chamber with advocacy efforts concerning the proposed LRT, regional transportation, Municipal Auditor General and National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy. In addition, the Chamber has been very active on the runway extension issue and recently met with Minister Blair Lekstrom to discuss a number of transportation issues.
- The Chair thanked the Chamber staff for all their efforts surrounding Small Business Week.

4) Business Plan Approval

The business plan was presented including changes to reflect and align with the strategic plan of the Chamber. The plan includes a communications plan as part of the metrics and matrix for 2012. Discussion centered on the plan and its adoption for the incoming board members for 2012. It was suggested that the plan be reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Motion to approve the business plan.

Moved by Mike Black
Seconded by Ray Kolla
Carried

5) Finance and Audit Committee

a) 2012 Budget

The Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee provided a brief on the budget for 2012. Discussion centered on a small operating deficit, which has been mitigated, by a number of changes instituted in 2011. In addition, there will be small capital requirements for a new phone system and photocopier that are anticipated in 2012.

Motion to approve the 2012 budget.

Moved by Ray Kolla
Seconded by Pauline Rafferty
Carried

6) Victoria Economic Development

Discussion centered on the economic development strategy that was adopted by Victoria City Council. The plan recognizes the importance of the GVDA and staff will liaise with the City to develop new working relationships with the City's office when established.

7) Committee/TF Business

The list of nominated candidates for the Chamber board was circulated to the board. There are 10 candidates who have been nominated for 6 seats on the board. The election of new board members will occur over the coming weeks.

a) Policy and Public Affairs

Discussion centered on the Chamber's policy efforts in the context of a larger discussion about the need to ensure that the region remains affordable and financially sustainable. It was suggested that committees provide an overview of the year's activities and that suggestions for areas of focus for 2012 be developed for discussion at the November board meeting. It was asked that potential topics be forwarded to the Chair of the committee for consideration.

b) Economic Development

Discussion centered on the appointment of Michael Weston, CEO of Cube Global Storage, as the incoming Chair of the Greater Victoria Development Agency for 2012. The board endorsed Mr. Weston as a strong business leader with a history of community service.

Motion to appoint Mike Weston as GVDA Chair for 2012

Moved by Darlene Hollstein
Seconded by John Wilson
Carried

c) Governance Committee

The updated board skills matrix was shared with the board for their information. Discussion centered on updating the matrix with the new 2012 members to assess if there are any other board appointments which may be required.

d) Prodigy Group

The Chair of the Prodigy Group thanked the Board for their ongoing support over the year. The upcoming Mentorship Dinner has been well received and presentations are being made to the community partners for whom the Prodigy Group has raised funds.

8) Staff Report

The CEO outlined a number of activities including the invitation to present to the Parliamentary Committee on Transportation regarding a national transit strategy. The Business Services Show was discussed, with concerns that attendance was lower than anticipated. A new format for the Show is being considered.

9) Other Business

The Chair thanked the outgoing members of the Board for their service and dedication to the Chamber. Those retiring from the Board include Pauline Rafferty, Ray Kolla, Bea Bate, George Fuller, Rob Bennett and Gerry Brimacombe. The Chair presented gifts to each of the retiring Directors with the Board's thanks and gratitude.

Motion to Adjourn by John Espley

Next Meeting – Annual Board Retreat – November 19th, 2011.

Secretary

Chair

Date