

Present: Darlene Hollstein (Chair), Frank Bourrée, John Wilson, Rose Arsenault, Kathleen Burton, Al Hasham, Dan Dagg, Lori Muñoz, David Rand, Sang Ly, John Espley, Ryan Burles, Mark Smith, Richard Van Leeuwen, Bruce Carter (CEO), Oriane Fort (staff)

Regrets: Tom Roemer, Capt (N) Bob Auchterlonie, Stephanie Solyon

- 1) **Motion to approve the meeting agenda as amended to include discussion of the industrial and manufacturing committee, the Base Commander's new appointment, and corporate credit cards under 12) New Business.**

Moved by David Rand
Seconded by Frank Bourrée
Carried

- 2) **Motion to approve minutes of January 22, 2013 Board of Directors meeting as amended to include "distribute the GVHA newsletter to the Board" as an action item under 7) In Camera Session.**

Moved by David Rand
Seconded by Frank Bourrée
Carried

3) **Chair's Remarks**

The Chair discussed recent successful events including the 150th Anniversary Ball, FlowerCount launch, and the Economic Outlook (co-hosted by Chemistry Consulting and the GVDA). Discussion surrounded TIAC's upcoming meeting, as the group is assessing its role and the BC Chamber may need to get involved.

4) **Business arising from last meeting**

- a) **Community Involvement Task Force Terms of Reference**

The task force was unable to meet in January, delaying the Terms of Reference by another month.

5) **Appointments to Outside Organizations**

- a) **Dave Marshall selected by GVHA**

The board congratulated Dave Marshall on his new appointment. Discussion surrounded the Chamber's role as a member of the GVHA, its recent change in governance structure and upcoming AGM. As a member of the GVHA, the Chamber board will select a representative to attend the AGM who is not the same person as the GVHA board appointee.

6) Provincial Budget

The budget proposed modest tax increases and curbing spending. This plan is similar to the recommendations made in the Chamber's presentation to the Standing Committee on Finance, as the economy is still in a recovery period. Better access to daycare has been raised as a budget issue in the media, if the Board chooses to pursue it as a policy priority, the focus should be placed on available daycare spaces only meet 20% of demand.

7) 150th Anniversary Celebrations

The Chair congratulated Rose Arsenault and Sarah Mitchell for their dedicated work in organizing such a successful event. The event raised \$4,000, was attended by the lieutenant governor, and received positive feedback. There will be a celebration on Friday March 1st to bid Events Manager Sarah Mitchell farewell on her last day with the Chamber.

8) Royal BC Museum

There have been concerns that the museum's blockbuster shows might be disappearing, however it has been confirmed they will continue every second year. Although the hit shows are quite costly for the museum to host, they bring significant economic impact to the region. The next one is scheduled for summer 2014.

9) Conference Centre Statistics

The low number of projected delegate days is worrisome. Even though the numbers reflect an overall decrease in delegate days in other regions, lower corporate travel numbers and increased competition, the Mayor of Victoria has expressed interest in conducting a third party review.

Motion: Encourage the City of Victoria to examine opportunities to improve conference centre performance including, but not limited to, delegate days and operations.

Moved by: Dan Dagg
Seconded by: John Espley
Carried

10) Policy Development Plan

- a) Marine Conservation Area (create new policy): The Chamber and Royal Victoria Yacht club are hosting a community consultation on April 10th. The policy addresses the potential impacts of the proposed Marine Conservation Area, the issue of authority and control, and requests a cost-benefit analysis be undertaken.
- b) Regional Transportation (update retired policy): This policy calls for a regional transportation authority that incorporates transportation planning, development and control.
- c) BC Ferries (revise current policy): We are expecting the provincial review sometime this week, and will update existing policy to reflect its findings.
- d) Infrastructure – General management (create new policy): This policy encourages government to use public-private partnerships to address our infrastructure deficit, and to implement the best practices of their procurement methods.
- e) Creating Equity in the Property Tax System of British Columbia (revise/resubmit policy to BCC): This policy must be revised and resubmitted to the BC Chamber to stay up to date.

- f) Natural Gas Common Rate Proposal (finalize draft and submit to BCC): Since the common rate proposal was rejected, the policy must be updated to address the BCUC's decision.

11) Policies for Deletion

Motion – Recommend the deletion of the following policies; as amended to remove d), g) and l) from the list so they can be discussed at the next Board meeting:

Moved by John Wilson
Seconded by John Espley

- a) Airport Rent (achieved)
- b) Approved Destination Status (achieved)
- c) Business Consideration for Sewage Treatment for the Capital Region (to be replaced by infrastructure policy)
- d) *Consistency in Sentencing for Drug Trafficking*
- e) Deficit Budgeting
- f) Douglas St. Busway (to be replaced by Regional Transportation policy)
- g) *Easing Labour Market Pressure Through Child Care Flexibility*
- h) Government Assistance Packages to Industry
- i) Predictability for Provincial and Regional Destination Marketing Organizations (achieved)
- j) Restructuring the FCTIP for Increased Tourism Competitiveness (achieved)
- k) Securing the Future of Local Television
- l) *Taxation Incentives to Discourage Vacant and Derelict Buildings*

Amendment to the motion. Remove d), g) and l) for separate discussion.

Motion to amend moved by David Rand
Seconded by Sang Ly

Amendment carried
Motion carried

12) New Business

a) **Manufacturing & Industrial Sector Operational Committee**

John Juricic (BC Chamber board representative) is chairing the new committee. The committee is open to all sector representatives and there are no Chamber membership restrictions. The first meeting will be April 4th.

b) **New Base Commander appointment**

The Chair congratulated to Capt (N) Bob Auchterlonie, who will be promoted to Commodore in the summer, taking command of the fleet. Bob will leave our Board, and we look forward to the announcement of a new Base Commander who will join us in the coming months.

c) **Corporate credit cards**

The CEO highlighted that the existing corporate credit cards have no travel miles or rewards benefits, and Island Savings (CUETS) cannot provide a corporate card with such benefits. He recommended pursuing BMO's rewards credit card to replace the existing cards and increase the total borrowing limit to \$50,000 to enable Dallas Gislason to obtain a card with a \$10,000 limit.

Motion – Authorize increasing the limit to \$50,000 for BMO Corporate MasterCards to replace the CUETS MasterCards current limit of \$40,000; as amended to include “the points will benefit the Chamber, using appropriate accounting measures, and with cancellation of existing cards.”

Moved by Frank Bourrée
Seconded by Sang Ly

Amendment to the motion. Include “the points will benefit the Chamber, using appropriate accounting measures, and with cancellation of existing cards.”

Motion to amend moved by John Espley
Seconded by Kathleen Burton

Amendment carried
Motion carried

13) Committee Reports

- a) Executive Committee
- b) GVDA
- c) Policy
- d) Prodigy
- e) Finance and Audit
- f) Governance

14) Standing Reports

- a) Events Registration
- b) Executive Dashboard
- c) Membership Report
- d) Board Attendance Report

15) In Camera Session

Support staff left the room to allow for candid discussion among the Board and CEO.

Motion to Adjourn by David Rand

Next Meeting: March 26, 2013 at the Chamber offices

Secretary

Chair

Date