

GREATER VICTORIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Board Meeting
07:00 hours – 22 September 2009

Present: John Juricic (Chair), Margaret Lucas, Richard Gordon, David Vinnels, Rose Arsenault, Ray Kolla, John Espley, Dave Marshall, George Fuller, Mike Black, Gerry Brimacombe, Annie Wong Harrison, David Rand, Roger Skillings, Pauline Rafferty, Captain Marcel Halle, David Nicholson (arrived at 7:50)
Bruce Carter (CEO), Shannon Renault (staff)

Regrets:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 AM

1. Motion to approve the meeting agenda

Moved by David Rand

Seconded by Gerry Brimacombe

Carried

2. Motion to approve the minutes of August 2009 Board of Directors meeting.

Moved by David Rand

Seconded by Mike Black

Carried

3. Chair's Remarks

- The Chair commented on the Canadian Chamber AGM coming up in Victoria and the role the GVCC is playing in the conference
- Commented on the success of the Governor of the Bank of Canada event
- Noted that the GVCC board elections are coming up and that nomination forms need to be submitted in a couple of days. The board was asked to be available to candidates who need signatures and support to run.

4. Mayor Dean Fortin was welcomed to speak to the Board

- Mayor Fortin spoke about the consultation process for the potential redevelopment of the Johnson Street Bridge
- He also addressed the consultant reports given to council and the reasons for their decision to rebuild rather than refurbish.
- Mayor Fortin discussed the work going into putting together a "Team Victoria" for diplomatic and economic visits to sister-cities
- Mayor Fortin also said that he and delegates will be working on building relationships with the Mayor of Seattle and the Governor of Washington
- The topic of sewage treatment was raised and possibilities that may be available for resource recovery and cost reductions
- Mayor Fortin expressed a desire to work more closely with the chamber on policy issues leading to bring forward to UBCM in the coming years.

The Mayor's presentation was followed by a brief question and answer period where the mayor addressed questions pertaining to other options for the Johnson Street Bridge if funding from senior governments is not secured

5. Chamber Board Elections

- The board reviewed the nominations to date

- David Rand announced that he would not be running for re-election this year
- The nomination committee will be formed immediately following the election – this is to nominate a slate for the executive committee. It will be chaired by John Juricic and have three other members who are not current board members. The nominating committee will present names to John Juricic and the proposed executive committee is presented to the new Board of Directors at the November meeting
 - There can also be nominations made from the floor for the executive committee at the November meeting

6. Committee Reports

- a) Prodigy Group
 - looking for new location for mingles
 - report attached
- b) Membership
 - fall membership drive is under way, outlined by committee chair
 - expressed the need to discuss the membership committee further at the retreat
- c) Governance
 - Will be a policy for review by board at October meeting regarding Chamber appointments to exterior boards
 - Chair thanked both David Rand and Richard Gordon for their work of the Board of Directors and governance committee as they both have indicated they would not be running for the board in the upcoming election

d) Policy and Public Affair

Motion to rescind the following policies

- Belleville Street Terminal
- Regional Transportation Authority
- GST Exclusion on Heritage Buildings
- Events & Activities

Moved by David Marshall

Seconded by David Nicholson

Carried

The committee chair also flagged the issue of EI reform for the Board of Directors as a potential issue for a federal election if one is called.

e) Building

- The committee is gathering information from Colliers and the Finance and Audit Committee and will have a recommendation for the board at the October meeting
- 2010 Budget. There have been some preliminary discussions so far, will be a review in mid October and recommendations to the board at October board meeting
- Chair commented on the consequences of the recession to chamber finances. Advised the board there will be a significant financial discussion at October meeting

f) Economic Development

- Will be a follow up summit on September 25th
- The chair asked that info from the summit be sent to Chamber board of directors as well as GVDA board

- CEO announced that Victoria Airport Authority has given \$5000 in funding to GVDA and a commitment to continue to support moving forward
- Board of GVDA will be doing some strategic work moving forward

7. Task Force Reports

- A discussion arose on the issue of DMOs and the Additional Hotel Room Tax. It was recognized that this will be a significant issue for the community

8. Staff Report

- There will be another HST presentation at the Business Services Show
- CEO expressed opinion that it is not likely there will be a federal election given the late fall schedule
- Canadian Chamber Executive meeting reception will be held at the chamber office
- Outlined the CC AGM and talked about the policies that GVCC is bringing forward.

Motion to adjourn at 8:48 AM
Moved by David Rand

Next board meeting will be October 27, 2009 at 7:30 AM at the chamber office.

Secretary

Chair

Date