

GREATER VICTORIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Board Meeting
07:00 hours – 25 May 2010

Present: David Marshall, John Juricic, Rose Arsenault, Rob Bennett, Mike Black, Gerry Brimacombe, Mel Couvelier, John Espley, Captain Marcel Halle, Al Hasham, Ray Kolla, Regan McGrath, Pauline Rafferty, Roger Skillings, David Vinnels, Annie Wong Harrison
Bruce Carter (CEO), Shannon Renault (staff)

Regrets: Dan Dagg, Pauline Rafferty

Guests: Craig Baines, JoAnn Walton, Paul Servos, David Rand

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 AM. The Chair invited Captain Halle to introduce our guest. Captain Halle introduced Craig Baines as the incoming Base Commander at CFB Esquimalt as he is moving back east. The Chair thanked Captain Halle for his dedication and work on the GVCC board over the last number of years.

1. Motion to approve the meeting agenda

Moved by Ray Kolla

Seconded by Gerry Brimacombe

Carried

2. Motion to approve the minutes of the April 2010 Board of Directors meeting, with minor amendments as noted.

Moved by Rob Bennett

Seconded by Gerry Brimacombe

Carried

3. Chair's Remarks

- The acting chair gave an update on the chair and he remains on leave of absence.
- The board was briefed on the agenda of meetings with elected officials.
- The acting chair continues to meet regularly with the city manager and mayor
- Chamber has offered to organize a business community circle to provide information into the OCP process for the City of Victoria.

4. Declaration on Candidacy

- A draft of a declaration of interest from existing board members was introduced. The form will be used to assist in planning what role board members would like to take in the upcoming years.

5. Committee/Task Force Reports

- a) Prodigy Group
 - Report attached.
- b) GVDA
 - Report attached.
 - The chair of the committee outlined work regarding funding security going forward.
- c) Finance and Audit

- The chair of the Finance and Audit Committee invited board members to attend the next finance and audit meeting for a discussion on the chamber's investment strategy
- An RFP will be done for a new auditor
- A discussion on the chamber's market investments followed.

Motion to accept the financial statements to April 30, 2010 as presented.

Moved by Ray Kolla

Seconded by Rob Bennett

Carried

d) Membership

- Report attached.

e) Governance

i. Board Chair Terms

- The chair of the governance committee outlined the discussions he has had with past chairs of the chamber
- A recommendation was presented that the chair may be permitted to continue for a second year, if they agree, are so selected by the nominating committee, and the decision is supported by the vice chair.

Motion to table the recommendation as presented for future discussion.

Moved by John Juricic

Seconded by Gerry Brimacombe

Carried

ii. Board Recruiting Committee

- Presented terms of reference for board recruiting committee as tasked at the last meeting

Motion to approve terms of reference for the board recruiting committee as presented.

Moved by Gerry Brimacombe

Seconded by Ray Kolla

Carried

- A discussion followed on amending the accountability section of the terms of reference to indicate that the committee reports to the board rather than to the executive committee. It was determined it should remain as presented.

f) Policy and Public Affairs

- The committee presented a redrafted policy position on the issue of sewage treatment.

Motion to approve the policy titled Business Consideration for Sewage Treatment in for the Capital Region.

Moved by Rob Bennett

Seconded by Mike Black

Carried

- The terms of reference for the environmental subcommittee were present to the board for information
- The Vancouver firm identified to do the municipal consumption study has submitted a quote that is outside of the budget for the Victoria Chamber. Staff will put out an RFP for a local firm to do the work.

- The PPA has been asked to review the chamber's existing operational policies.

Motion to approve committee reports.

Moved by Mike Black

Seconded by Roger Skillings

Carried

6. Chamber Election

- The CEO presented the proposed schedule and notice of board elections.
- It was noted that Mel Couvelier's name needs to be added to those directors with one year remaining on their term.
- Board members were invited to look over the notice of board elections and to submit comments at the next board meeting.

7. Mid Year Planning

- The plan and objectives for the mid-year retreat were addressed and how the work of the mid-year retreat feeds into the end of the year planning session.
- A suggestion was made that an update on the work of the executive committee should be added.

8. Presentation – Film Commission (guest Jo Ann Walton, Film Commissioner)

- Film Commission is currently located in the wax museum building and needs to relocate for one year during the seismic upgrade.
- Request has been made that GVCC provide one office to the GVFC. The Film Commission has offered the chamber sponsorship benefits in lieu of rent for the use of the office space for one year.
- The Film Commission gave a brief outline of the accomplishments of the commission last year and their plans for the year to come.
- The Treasurer commented that they have looked at the request and offer support as being good for the chamber.
- The CEO noted that given the environment for office rental, it is unlikely that the office would be rented out in the short term.
- A question was asked as to whether the GVCC board would have a representative on the GVFC board of directors.

Motion to provide the Greater Victoria Film Commission an 18-24 month tenancy with sponsorship benefits in lieu of rent.

Moved by Ray Kolla

Seconded by Roger Skillings

Carried

9. Staff Report

- The CEO reported on staffing changes.
- Commented that along with requesting all of our policies at the BC Chamber AGM, we have also requested a meeting with Minister Bill Bennett while in attendance at the conference.
- The release that the chamber sent regarding property rights and the city's consideration of the marina development were picked up well by the media. There are some concerns being vociferously expressed to the chamber as a result of the statement.
- The navy fleet review is taking place from June 9 to 14. The Ambassadors will be helping to staff a welcome booth throughout the event.

- CEO noted that the chamber will host a community round table and that he has encouraged other business organizations to do the same.
- CEO reported on the airport plans to bring in new routes.
- The Victoria Integrated Court at a very low profile in the community. Will be a review forthcoming to report out the early results.

10. Presentation (Paul Servos, Greater Victoria Harbour Authority)

- The CEO of the GVHA provided information on the financial position and plans for the GVHA and outlined the planning process the GVHA is going through
- The City of Victoria had indicated a desire to downzone the property at Ogden Point about three years ago. The GVHA did not approve of the proposed downzoning. Instead they have entered into a planning process for how they hope to use the lands in the future.
- Overall goals for the GVHA for development include marine industrial, no heavy industrial and no residential.

Motion to adjourn at 9:05 AM

Moved by Rob Bennett

Next board meeting will be the mid-year retreat on June 29 at 7:30 AM at the Delta Ocean Pointe Resort and Spa.

Secretary

Chair

Date