

GREATER VICTORIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Board Meeting
07:30 hours – 28 September 2010

Present: David Marshall, John Juricic, Rose Arsenault, David Vinnels, Mike Black, Rob Bennett, Pauline Rafferty Mel Couvelier, John Espley, George Fuller, Al Hasham, Ray Kolla, Roger Skillings, David Vinnels, Annie Wong Harrison, Dan Dagg
Linda Kitchen (Operations Manager)

Regrets: Captain Craig Baines, Gerry Brimacombe, Regan McGrath, Bruce Carter (CEO), Shannon Renault (staff)

1. Motion to approve the meeting agenda

Moved by Ray Kolla

Seconded by John Juricic

Carried

2. Motion to approve minutes of the August 24th Board of Directors meeting with minor edits.

Moved by George Fuller

Seconded by Rob Bennett

Carried

Motion to approve the August 24th in camera meeting minutes, which were read to the Board by the Chair

Moved by Rob Bennett

Seconded by Roger Skillings

Carried

3. Chair's Remarks

- Chair commented on his recent meeting with the Mayor Fortin while driving him to the airport and their discussion regarding a number of concerns of the Chamber and the message to developers that the City is not open for business.
- The Chair also commented that we need to get to the point we can have the same level of discussion with other mayors in the region.
- The Chair updated the board on his meetings in Gatineau with the BC Chamber Chair. They covered the need to enhance their communications to their members and their work on policy positions approved by the membership. The Chair advised that there would be ongoing dialogue between the organizations. It was felt that overall it was a constructive process and that there would be better communication coming from the BC Chamber.

4. Nominating Committee

- The Chair reviewed the email he sent to the Board to provide notice that he would be asking for the establishment of the Nominating Committee today.

Motion to establish the Nominating Committee for the 2011 Board of Directors and that it be comprised of, Mike Black, Shawn Steele, John Juricic and George Fuller, who would chair the committee.

Moved by Dave Marshall

Seconded by Pauline Rafferty

Carried

5. Canadian Chamber Report

- The Chair provided a recap of the policy debates and advised that each chamber can only put forward 2 policies. He indicated that it was very interesting this year as the Edmonton and Calgary Chamber got together and purchased a membership for every Chamber in the province so that Ontario didn't control the voting this year. This was a shock to Ontario and debate was more constructive than in previous years. Overall, BC did well - most of the policies we were advocating for were either passed or revised before gaining delegate support.

6. Recruitment Committee Report

- There will be a healthy election process for the 2011 – 2012 GVCC Board of Directors as we have 12 people running for 5 positions. Once the election results are known the committee will convene to review the skills matrix and make their recommendations to the Board at the Oct 26th Board meeting.

7. Committee / Task Force Reports

Economic Development

- Rob Bennett and CEO are on the city committee helping to create a strategy for the City of Victoria regarding economic development, a meeting will be held this Thursday to finalize the terms of reference and work is to be completed by Feb. Ec Dev Officer Sasha Angus is working on a business case for GVDA.

Branding Task Force

- Dan Dagg provided a quick recap of the status and advised that he recently had circulated a 'branding paper'. He felt that he maybe skirting a few policies & procedures. After consideration and review over the past 6 weeks his recommendation was a meeting be held with GVCC management to ratify the direction of the committee.
- Policy and Public Affairs – full written report was circulated to the Board.
 - Capital Spending – Saanich & Victoria have been invited to join in at the next meeting.
 - Environmental Subcommittee – Dan indicated that the sub-brand was an important issue and that they had identified the business of sustainability. He reviewed the logos created for the Sustainable Futures events that the Chamber will be embarking on and advised that they would be used tactically whenever the opportunity presented itself.

- Governance

- Director assessments have been completed and the Chair of the committee shared the results in his detailed written overview. Discussion took place on the report and it was felt that the exercise was well done and it was a great start and critical to benchmark our efforts. The tracking of information makes everyone aware of the obligations. Other discussion points:
 1. if we didn't exist would anyone notice?
 2. member engagement
 3. more time for discussion / less time for reports
 4. what is the dashboard we want to see each month

It was suggested that we delete question 20 – what was the value of comparison.

Moved by Mel Couvelier,

Seconded by Ray Kolla

That the Governance Board report be referred to the retreat for further discussion

Carried

Harbour Development Plan(s)

- The Chair reported that the CEO had recently attended a meeting under the auspices of Tourism Victoria, of various stake holders who have a vision of the harbour – they want to put together a plan for the harbour usage. It was the CEO’s observation that we already have a group who is responsible for the harbour, that being the Victoria Harbour Authority.

It was felt that most view the GVHA as being a landlord of 4 properties. Discussion took place about a vision for the harbour and it was expressed that they can & should have the mandate to do such. It was reinforced that there was no need for yet another group or organization and that the Chamber should assist the GVHA in obtaining the mandate or authority if they didn’t already have it. The Chamber has a representative on the authority Board – and should be using that contact for info in & out.

New Business – Fire Alarm By-Law

- The Chair referenced the document attached to the agenda and advised that again this was an issue he had discussed with the Mayor. It represents a concern about the City’s approach and understanding of business issues, especially given the lack of prior consultation.

Motion to adjourn at 9:05 AM

Moved by Roger Skillings

Seconded by Mel Couvelier

Secretary

Chair

Date