

GREATER VICTORIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Board Meeting
07:00 hours – 22 February 2011

Present: David Marshall (Chair), John Espley (Vice Chair), Rose Arsenault, Captain Craig Baines, Rob Bennett, Mel Couvelier, Dan Dagg, George Fuller, Al Hasham, Darlene Hollstein, Kimberley Hughes, Ray Kolla, Regan McGrath, Pauline Rafferty, John Wilson
Bruce Carter (CEO), Shannon Renault (staff)

Regrets: Bea Bate, Mike Black, Gerry Brimacombe, Janell Karst

Guest: Mayor Dean Fortin

1. Motion to approve the meeting agenda

Moved by Rob Bennett

Seconded by Regan McGrath

Carried

2. Motion to approve consent agenda, including minutes of January 25, 2011 Board of Directors meeting.

Moved by Rob Bennett

Seconded by Pauline Rafferty

Carried

3. Chair's Remarks

- The Chair passed on congratulations to Regan McGrath on her nomination for community leadership awards
- The Chair reported to the Board on his participation in the BC Chamber focus group undertaken as a part of their strategic planning process
- The Chair continues to work with the Peninsula Chamber on concerns about Anacortes Ferry and is focussing on greater collaboration with the WestShore Chamber

4. Action Items

- a) Approval of Strategic Plan
 - Chair of the Policy and Public Affairs committee outlined discussion about public safety that took place at the last committee meeting. The PPA recommends that the GVCC focus on quality of life issues related to crime and public safety rather than focussing on safety per se The wording in the strategic plan will read "The Chamber seeks to foster a safe and welcoming environment for business and citizens to maintain an ambience and high quality of life, and thereby increase our competitive advantage."
 - A director asked for an amendment to be made to the wording in the values section of the Strategic Plan.

Motion to amend the wording in the values section of the strategic plan, under section 3, third bullet to read:

“We encourage flexibility and diversity and recognize the importance of meeting economic changes as they occur.”

Moved by Dave Marshall

Seconded by Ray Kolla

Carried

Motion to approve 2011-2014 Strategic Plan

Moved by David Marshall

Seconded by Ray Kolla

Carried

b) List of Committee Members

Motion to approve committee list with minor edits.

Moved by Rob Bennett

Seconded by Darlene Hollstein

Carried

c) Political Engagement

A follow up conversation on the topic of political engagement at the January board meeting on took place.

Motion to approve executive committee report to the board on political engagement/involvement as presented in the board package.

Moved by Rob Bennett

Seconded by Ray Kolla

Carried

5. Respectful Communication

- A policy document on respectful communication was presented to the Board and discussed.

Motion to approve respectful communication document as presented in the board package.

Moved by John Espley

Seconded by Dan Dagg

Carried

6. Committee /Task Force Reports

Policy and Public Affairs

The committee chair outlined decisions of the committee regarding rapid transit, and public safety and provided an update on tax work to date.

Finance and Audit

- The Chair presented the financial reports.

Motion that internal year-end financial statement be approved as presented.

Moved by Ray Kolla

Seconded by John Espley

Carried

Executive Committee

- A discussion took place about the length of time of board meetings and the ability to fully discuss subjects within the time frame of board meetings. A suggestion was made on the use of technology to post agendas early so board can see them ahead of time and choose whether to engage or not .
- A decision was made to begin board meetings at 7 AM over the next few months and reassess that decision later in the spring.

Branding Task Force

- The task force chair noted that the project is approximately two weeks behind schedule due to spring break. The committee may need to have assistance from the board to get certain business people to focus groups.

Membership

- CEO reported on membership committee work and ongoing discussions of membership fees. The Chamber Chair also noted that there are ongoing conversations regarding potential membership partnerships under way.

150th Anniversary

- Nothing to add to status report in board package.

Greater Victoria Development Agency

- EDO has requested the opportunity to address the GVCC board and provide an update. A discussion followed about the usefulness and perhaps necessity of forming an international trade subcommittee of GVDA.

Governance

- Nothing to add to status report in board package.

Motion to accept committee task force reports as presented.

Moved by John Espley

Seconded by Rob Bennett

Carried

7. Staff Report

- a) CEO discussed the future of the Golf Tournament and Christmas Lunch. A decision was made to keep the golf tournament and possibly cancel the Christmas Lunch.
- b) CEO outlined the Chamber Learning programs as sponsored through BC Chamber. The programs are expected to generate new revenue to GVCC.
- c) QuMark websites is a new service for members needing basic websites and represents another potential new revenue stream for the Chamber.

8. Presentation by Mayor Dean Fortin

Mayor Fortin provided a presentation to the Board of Directors on the City's current budget and forward projections.

Motion to Adjourn by Rob Bennett at 9:25

Next Meeting March 22nd at 7:00 AM at the Chamber office.

Secretary

Chair

Date