

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce January 25, 2010

Present: Greg Chandler, Jake Goering, Amy Trast, Lisa Randall, Jane Bymark, Cheryl Lemler, Gary McInerney, Margie Ritter, David Marty, Derek Rolle, Stephanie Davis, Chad Simons, Brandon Sharp, Megan Christianson, Diane Skelly, Leigh Lonson

Absent: Kim Jamtgaard, Dave Leveille, Kristina Clark, Roger Mischke

Chamber staff: Bud Stone, Renee Thompson

Guests: Marla Beaty

Jake called the meeting to order and asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Megan suggested adding discussion about members who sent letters regarding dropping their membership. Bud informed the Board that Margie will be addressing that issue when she talks about the Dues Taskforce.

Amy Trast made a motion to approve the agenda. Jane Bymark seconded the motion. Motion carried. Agenda approved.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Jake asked for a motion to approve the December 28, 2009 meeting minutes.

Greg Chandler made a motion to approve the December 28, 2009 meeting minutes. Gary McInerney seconded the motion. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

FINANCIALS

Bud reviewed the 2009-year end financials with the board members.

Margie Ritter made a motion to accept the 2009-year end financials. Jane Bymark seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

REVIEW OF 2010 COMMITTEE GOALS

The Area Business Committee (ABC), Ambassadors and Transportation Committee 2010 Goals and Missions were emailed to the board prior to the board meeting.

Bud asked the board if they had any concerns regarding the goals.

With no concerns mentioned. Greg Chandler made a motion to accept the ABC, Ambassadors and Transportation 2010 Goals and Missions as presented. Amy Trast seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

GOLD STAR MEMBER

Bud reminded the board that at the last board meeting, this item was tabled. Board members were asked to think about options for the Gold Star Member Program and whether or not they wanted to implement such a program.

David Marty made a motion to again table this item until the next meeting and asked Bud to prepare a proposal for the board to vote on.

Margie stated that Bud had a proposal at the December board meeting that the board reviewed and discussed it, but did not come to a decision.

David asked Bud if he had that proposal with him today. Bud had the proposal and reviewed it again with the board.

David then withdrew his motion and made a new motion to adopt the Gold Star Member proposal as presented. Gary McInerney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACTION: Bud will work on getting the Gold Star Member Program implemented and will report to the Board on his progress at the February Board meeting.

BIG BROTHER

Kerry went through the big brother assignments.

ACTION: Kerry will continue to set up these assignments as new members join.

DUES TASKFORCE UPDATE

Bud informed the board that Margie has agreed to chair the Dues Taskforce Committee for 2010.

Margie then informed the board that she is currently forming the committee. The committee will mostly consist of Past Board members. She will also be asking a few people in the financial field.

ACTION: Margie will keep the board updated on the progress of the Dues Taskforce at future Board meetings.

NUCLEAR BAN DISCUSSION

Bud distributed a flyer explaining the Minnesota Chamber's Base Load Energy & Capacity Policy.

Bud explained that there is movement to repeal the State of Minnesota's nuclear energy plant ban. There will be a discussion on this issue at the January 29, 2010 Chamber Government Affairs meeting.

ACTION: Bud asked the board to review the flyer and let him know of any recommendations they would like him to bring to the Government Affairs Committee prior to their January 29, 2010 meeting.

MCCE CONFERENCE

Bud discussed the MCCE conference he recently attended. Bud indicated that it was a very good conference and many key issues were discussed.

Bud participated in a social media session. The session talked about businesses using facebook, twitter and linked in.

Bud explained that different audiences use different media avenues. Because of that, he feels the Chamber should be actively using all three media avenues.

ACTION: Bud will have Kerry look into getting set up with facebook, twitter and linked in.

PRESENTATIONS

The Laurentian Chamber is exploring becoming more of a public policy chamber and asked Bud to come and present to them regarding our public policy committees.

Bud and Kerry will be going to Nashwauk in the next month to help them move toward a more public policy Chamber as well.

Bud also did a presentation at the Hill City Chamber's Annual meeting.

Bud then gave the board his presentation titled, "The Chamber Does What?"

ACTION: No further action necessary.

WALLEYE CLASSIC UPDATE

Bud reviewed the Walleye Classic Sponsors with the board. He also reviewed the payout levels and the budget with them.

Bud asked the board members to help distribute Walleye Classic Flyers.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

OTHER

Brandon informed the board that this would be his last board meeting. He has accepted a promotion and will be relocating to St. Cloud, MN to manage the new Super Wal-Mart that is being built there.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

NEXT MEETING:

The next board meeting will be at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, February 22, 2010 at the Forest Lake Restaurant.

Gary McInerney made a motion to adjourn. Amy Trast seconded the motion; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.