

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce February 23, 2009

Present: Amy Trast, Sherry Frick, Cheryl Lemler, Jane Bymark, Margie Ritter, Chad Simons, Peggy Schagh, Mike Iaizzo, Kim Jamtgaard, David Marty, Lisa Randall, Megan Christianson, Wayne Bruns, Greg Chandler, Dave Leveille

Absent: Sholom Blake, Jake Goering, Gary McInerney, Brandon Sharp, June Johnson

Chamber staff: Bud Stone, Renee Thompson, Kerry Larsen

Guests: Marla Beaty, Melissa Roberts, Cory Jackson

Margie called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Greg Chandler made a motion to approve the agenda. Wayne Bruns seconded the motion. Motion carried. Agenda approved.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Margie then asked for a motion to approve the January 26, 2009 meeting minutes.

Amy Trast made a motion to approve the January 26, 2009 meeting minutes. Wayne Bruns corrected the minutes to state Mike Iaizzo was "present" and not "absent" at the January meeting. Jane Bymark seconded the motion with the stated correction. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

ACTION: Renee will make the stated correction to the minutes.

FINANCIALS

Bud reviewed the January 2009 financials with the board members.

After board review, Greg Chandler made a motion to accept the January 2009 financials. Cheryl Lemler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Melissa Roberts, Young Professionals Past Chair, explained to the board how and why the "YP" group was formed in 2008 and reviewed some the groups' 2008 accomplishments.

Cory Jackson, Young Professionals current chair, explained to the board the groups 2009 goals and plans. Cory also informed the board that the group is currently designing a logo and promoting Young Professionals and their events on facebook. They also plan to implement an Information Officer.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Megan Christianson, Workforce Development Committee Chair, explained to the board the Chamber's Workforce Development Committee 2009 goals and mission and also explained some of their past accomplishments. Past accomplishments include: CEO's in the Schools, Future Workers, Grandworks, WELD, Circles of Support and Career Day.

Margie Ritter, Past Co-Chair and current committee member, explained the committee's job skills survey that was conducted five years ago and that the committee is sending out a benchmark survey this year.

Bud informed the board that the Winona Chamber has adopted our CEO's in the Schools Program.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

DUES RESTRUCTURE TASK FORCE

Margie and Bud gave the committee an overview of the Dues Taskforce meeting.

After board discussion, Sherry Frick made a motion to implement a \$3500 cap on financial institutions dues for 2009. David Marty seconded the motion. Megan Christianson asked if the taskforce came up with a deadline for a new dues schedule.

After additional board discussion, the motion was amended "to implement a \$3500 cap on financial institutions while the Dues Taskforce continues to work on the dues structure for a final presentation to the board by the 2009-year end. Motion carried.

ACTION: The Dues Task force will continue to give the board updates as necessary.

FUTURE BOARD MEETING LOCATIONS

Bud reviewed the locations for the board meetings for 2009.

January – April at Forest Lake.

May – August at Rivers.

September – December at Timberlake.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

Due to the time, the last three items on the agenda were postponed to the next board meeting.

Mike laizzo made a motion to adjourn. Amy Trast seconded the motion; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.