

MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce August 31, 2009

Present: Margie Ritter, Megan Christianson, June Johnson, Gary McInerney, Kim Jamtgaard, Lisa Randall, Brandon Sharp, Dave Leveille, Amy Trast, Jake Goering, Chad Simons, Cheryl Lemler, Greg Chandler

Sherry Frick (attended board meeting from 12:00 – 12:30 p.m. to participate in the branding discussion).

Absent: Peggy Schagh, Mike laizzo, David Marty, Sholom Blake, Jane Bymark

Chamber staff: Bud Stone, Renee Thompson, Kerry Larsen

Guests: Marla Beaty

Margie called the meeting to order and asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

Hearing no additions to the agenda, Margie asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Gary McInerney made a motion to approve the agenda. Greg Chandler seconded the motion. Motion carried. Agenda approved.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Margie then asked for a motion to approve the July 27, 2009 meeting minutes.

Greg Chandler made a motion to approve the July 27, 2009 meeting minutes. June Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

FINANCIALS

Bud reviewed the July 2009 financials with the board members.

Jake Goering made a motion to accept the July financials. Cheryl Lemler seconded the motion. Motion carries.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

GOVERNORS FISHING OPENER

Bud informed the board that the City of Cohasset did not commit to being a co-sponsor of the Governor's Fishing Opener.

Since the motion made by Gary McInerney at the July 2009 board meeting was to support the GFO if all four co-sponsors commit, Bud needed confirmation from the board that they are still on board to be a co-sponsor to the GFO.

The board decided to be keep their commitment to being a co-sponsor despite the City of Cohasset dropping out.

Chad Simons agreed to attend the GFO meetings as an alternate if Bud could not make them.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

CITYWIDE BRANDING

Chad Simons led the board in discussion regarding whether or not to replace the Chamber's current logo with the Branding logo. David Marty called in on the phone to voice that he fully supports Chad's commitment to change the Chamber's logo to the Branding logo. Sherry Frick also supports Chad.

Jake Goering voiced that he feels the Chamber needs to keep their current logo. The Chamber's current logo is the Chamber's identity and it is recognized.

Kim Jamtgaard expressed how she feels every business needs their own logo, which represents their identity.

Mike Iaizzo, Jane Bymark and Peggy Schagh were unable to attend today's meeting, but informed Bud prior to the meeting that they are in support of using the Branding logo as a sub-logo, but not in place of the Chamber's current logo. Sherry feels the logo may not be as effective if used as a sub-logo.

Chad spoke of the vast amount of information in the branding report from North Star stating that the Grand Rapids area is not well known to outsiders. Kim suggested looking at the report before making a decision. Margie also expressed interest in looking at the report.

ACTION: Bud will forward the report to Margie and to anyone else who is interested in reviewing the report. The board will continue this discussion at the October board meeting.

BOARD NOMINEES

Bud informed the board that the nominating committee met as scheduled. Stephanie Davis, Roger Mischke, Derek Rolle, Leigh Lonson, and Diane Skelly were all nominated for three-year terms. Kristina Clark was nominated for the 1-year term open spot.

Chad Simons made a motion to accept the slate of nominees. Jake Goering seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

PLANNING RETREAT

Bud reminded the board that the planning retreat will be taking place after the September 28, 2009 board meeting. The retreat should be over by 4:30 p.m. The next board meeting and retreat will be held at the Timberlake Lodge.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

BIG BROTHER

The board members gave updates on the new Chamber members they contacted.

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

CHAMBER LUNCHEON

Bud reminded the board that due to the Labor Day holiday, the September Chamber luncheon will be on September 14, 2009. Jim Hoolihan and Marian Barcus will be presenting.

ACTION: No further action necessary.

DUES TASK FORCE

Bud informed the board that the Dues Taskforce will be meeting on September 3, 2009 to review the survey results and make a decision as to what to do with the current dues structure.

ACTION: Another update will be give at the September board meeting.

OTHER

Chad Simons asked where Grow Minnesota stands. Did IEDC take it on? Bud answered, "No."

ACTION: No further action necessary.

NEXT MEETING:

The next board meeting will be at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, September 28, 2009 at Timberlake Lodge.

Gary McInerney made a motion to adjourn. Cheryl Lemler seconded the motion; motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.