

**Bay Area Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors
December 5, 2007
Red Lion Hotel – 7 am**

Board Members present: Jenny Bream, Brian Bream Screw Machines; Dick Leshley, Yellow Cab; Joanie Johnson, Sincerely Yours! Antiques; Sherry Yarbrough, Umpqua Bank; Crystal Shoji, Shoji Planning; Jim Hough, Hough, MacAdam & Wartnik; Eric Farm, Menasha; Ken Croes, KCBY-TV; Chris Christoffer, Sterling Bank; Margery Whitmer, Betty Kay Charters; Lucinda DiNovo, The Mill; Renee Middleton, US Bank;

Others present: Timm Slater, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce; Pam Cottrell, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce; Deryl Beebe, Ambassadors; Joyce Jansen, City of Coos Bay; Matt Jarvis, JCI NEWS; Mel Campbell; Charleston.

President Jenny Bream called the meeting to order. Introductions were made around the table. Minutes were seconded and approved.

Presidents Report - Jenny thanked the board for a fabulous year. She has enjoyed her position as President of the board. Acknowledged Ken as new President. Jenny has enjoyed Timm's one liners that he adds to the bottom of his Monday Minutes.

Executive Director's Report-

A. 2008 Board Goals – Champions

Champions are the people to track and evaluate progress to ensure that things get done. Some goal champions we have already

Ken Croes – All committee chairs meet twice annually to discuss common goals

Jenny Bream – Support the Ambassadors planning process, implementation actions as needs for their upcoming 2008 convention.

Crystal Shoji – The State of Oregon development and designation of Marine Reserves

Lucinda DiNovo – Develop and pursue local opportunities based on the upcoming 2008 Olympic Trials in Eugene.

Timm asked the Board to step up and become a Champion for one of the remaining 2008 goals:

Draw together or develop the materials to specify the benefits and value of being an active Chamber member.

The Chamber Board will develop or will be provided with, policy positions to address issues of critical importance to Oregon's Bay Area. These responses will be timely for best impact on the issue. For 2008 these will include:

The BLM Western Oregon Resource Management Plans revisions

CORP railroad embargo and south coast rail service

Membership will attract the new and next generation of business people into the Chamber

B. Economic Outlook Forum is this Friday December 7th. 6:45 am at the Mill Casino. 300 packets were planned to be stuffed for the event to be handed out to attendees. The event will seat 288 people to date we have 243 attendees registered. This is going to be a great event with a lot of good information. Timm will be the wagon master/drill sergeant for the event, assuring it stays on time.

C. Chamber Banquet will be January 26th. The event will be held at The Mill Casino. Tickets will remain at \$37.00. This event is a celebration and not a revenue maker. Our expectations are to cover the costs. Ken has chosen the theme this year, "Full Sail Ahead". The menu was great last year, however the committee has upgraded the menu this year, to the next level The Mill offers. We are asking for nominations for Citizen of the Year and Business of the Year. Invitations will be sent out the first of the year. Mel Campbell will be the Emcee this year and Timm has agreed to be co-emcee.

D. Executive Administration Assistant, Sarah will be leaving the Chamber and moving to Vancouver. The Chamber will be advertising to fill her position. Sarah has done a great job of preparing for the upcoming Chamber events, EOF and Awards Banquet, that she has been involved with in the past.

Treasurers Report- Sherry reports that the Chamber has \$123,264.98. A little behind last year at this time. Maybe due to the fact that advertising for the Directory is being invoiced this year and maybe a little slow in coming. Timm adds that the advertising sales for the Directory are doing well. We are looking at February as a delivery date.

Ambassadors- Deryl reports that the Ambassadors met last Friday. The Mill Casino will be the site for the convention this year. The Ambassadors have been discussing meals and menus with The Mill. Special Room Rates will be offered to convention attendees. She will be checking with other area motels for special room rates. Mel Campbell will emcee the show and Ken Croes will emcee the entertainment. We are in the process of lining up speakers and entertainment. We are also looking for sponsors. If you are interested in being a sponsor, please contact Deryl or any Ambassador. This Friday will be the Ambassadors annual Christmas party. Deryl thanked the board, this is her last year as president of the Ambassadors.

Tourism- Joanie is looking for funding to widen the road on Seven Devils to make for a safer Bike Path. Crystal suggested finding information on what grants may be available. The Tourism committee will not meet this month.

Forestry & Fisheries- Eric announced the committee will meet the 3rd Friday of the month.

Economic Development- Chris reports that this committee is in the process of redefining it's self. They will assess its usefulness to the Chamber.,by planning

projects and changing their format to help business. We talked of defining a business portal, which is a networking of information compiled and available for business inquiries, where they can find the information they are seeking. The committee will get the word out after the project has been defined. Another project this committee is focused on is Vision 2010, a working document of economic goals for the area. Also they look to update a list of commercial properties to let people know what property is available. We would like to bring in speakers to the meetings as appropriate. We would like to get this committee back to a working proactive group.. One item of interest comes from the Home Builders Association who expressed a need for a large Convention Center in this area.

4 Star Awards- Timm reminds the Board to use the 4 Star comment cards. It's important that good service is acknowledged and rewarded.

Government Affairs- Timm announced the first Government Affairs meeting was held October 31st. The 2nd meeting will be January 30th. Both North Bend and Coos Bay Mayors are confirmed to speak. February is a short session. Which will limit or negate calls to legislators. If you know of Bill alerts, let Timm know, don't assume that we know. E-mails can be sent to membership to get community input and support.

City of Coos Bay- Joyce reported Santa arrival, downtown Coos Bay on November 24th. Best one we have had. Santa arrived by Coast Guard cutter. The Christmas tree was lit. Santa led a parade to the Egyptian Theater where the movie "It's A Wonderful Life" played. The children received free soda and popcorn while watching the movie. Cindi Miller, president of the Downtown Association is working on ideas for next year. Mayor McKeown met with North Bend City Council. North Bend was represented by Rick Wetherell, Larry Garboden and Howard Graham. Coos Bay was represented by Jeff McKeown, Michelle Burnete and Jon Eck. The council discusses common goals. Future meetings will be public and televised. North Bend requested meetings be held in North Bend. No date has been set. The Skateboard Park is still in the works. Volunteers have showed up to help. Donations are being accepted. The City is in full support of the Skate Park. The City is looking for property to replace the Tennis Courts that have been lost, to give Mingus Park more parking, and those that will be lost in the development of the Skate Park. Randy Sparks, Public Safety Officer, and the Chuck Freeman, City Manager, are aware of the pan handling problem we are experiencing in Downtown Coos Bay. This is a challenge to handle, though efforts are being made to find a solution. Employee Awards Banquet will be this Friday at the Red Lion.

Charleston- Mel reports that Charleston was not included in the new area brochure, due to the fact that Charleston lodging does not collect bed tax. The Promotions Committee has agreed to include Charleston for a fee. Shore Acres will be open tonight. Please be sure to visit and see the lights

IBO- Jessica Hampton spoke on Marine Reserves. It was important for public awareness. The nomination process will take place late in 2008. Thank you Crystal, for overseeing this issue. This is a very serious issue for the West Coast.

Downtown Association- Joanie reports that wreaths sales continue. Search for Santa is a positive promotion program. Clues are in the newspaper to find Santa. Santa will be in downtown stores now until Christmas.

Meeting Adjourned

Around the Water Cooler- North Bend Christmas Tree lighting will take place at the Community Center tomorrow.

Visitor Center Volunteer Dinner will be this Thursday at Benetti's.

Festival of Trees Silent Auction will be this Thursday. Dick Leshley thanked The Mill Casino. They are so supportive to this project. Morgan Veterinary Hospital decorated a tree with a dog theme, and secured donations of \$1000 to purchase the tree to give to the Coos County Animal Shelter.

Timm recognized Mayor McKeown for his efforts in promoting communication in our community between our cities.

Mel asked that Charleston be included in the Fellowship.

Joyce said that Chuck is on the Commissioner Committee.

Jim Hough asked if the Chamber sent a Letter of Support on the LNG project.

LNG is good commerce and he is 100 % for it. The chamber has shown written support for the process of getting such a facility. The containerized cargo terminal is still in its developmental phase.

This was the last board meeting for :

President Jenny Bream.

Chris Christoffer thanked the board for the opportunity to serve on the board.

Renee Middleton thanked the board

Dick Leshley

Deryl Beebe.