

The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce
Board Meeting Minutes for July 7, 2004

Members Present: Sid Fannick, Business Advisor; Dick Leshley, Yellow Cab; Jenny Bream, Brian Bream Screw Machines; Marty Giles, Wavecrest Discoveries; Tom Scheideman, Weyerhaeuser Paper Company; Chris Christoffer, Sterling Bank; Ron Opitz, South Coast Development Council; John Pundt, Bicoastal Media; Raye Gieseke, Pony Village Mall; Renee Middleton, US Bank; Guests: Deryl Beebe, SOFCU and Jessica Chevaz, Cardinal Employment Services

President John Pundt called the meeting to order at 7 a.m. followed by introductions around the table.

The minutes were approved as submitted on a motion by Dick Leshley, seconded by Jeanny Bream; all were in favor.

John Pundt gave the Presidents report regarding the Lumberjack Competition that was held on June 26th. John said that although he had never attended before it was great to see what a professional event this was for our community. This a free event for the community that is made possible through sponsorships from various wood products businesses and community support. The Chamber, The Mill Casino Hotel and Douglas Timber Operators (DTO) are key sponsors. The Chamber deeply appreciates all the work that is put into this event by the Mill and DTO.

John said that he had the opportunity recently to hire a new sales manager from outside the area. He said that his eyes were opened when he heard first hand the first impression that the community made on them. Although they had only driven from one end of 101 to the other they were distressed by what they saw. Their impression was of a poor community that did not take care of itself. John said that after he drove them around the next day to other areas and sites of interest their opinion changed but this is a lesson for us. He urged the community to take a close look at how we appear to others.

Treasurer Chris Christoffer gave the financial report and stated that we are about \$25,000 ahead of last year at this time but that as usually happens in the summer, we are spending more than we are making. He said that all seems to be going well.

Shirley Liberante noted that Board elections are right around the corner. She urged the board to get involved in the selection of candidates.

Shirley reported that the Coos Bay Visitor Center is doing very well with the Admin offices across the street. Wayne's Color Center donated enough paint to do the interior. Cheryl Crockett, Visitor Center Coordinator and our volunteers painted the interior of the building, looks great!

Shirley reported that the Chamber has begun the process of inviting Tall Ships to our community as they go from San Francisco to Tacoma in July of 2005. The plan is to

send out several letters from many entities to make them feel that they are wanted. The community and the Chamber will then seek funds to hire a consultant to help us with our new identity as the “Tall Ship Capital of whatever”.

Deryl Beebe showed everyone the new sweatshirts for the Chamber for sale at the Oregon Connection.

Marty Giles invited everyone to attend the Tourism meeting on the third Thursday and reported that at last the large entrance signs are finished to be placed in Charleston for the Bandon to Charleston Tour Route.

Raye Gieseke, IBO Chair reported that we are revving up for next year and she is very excited about starting the IBO year 4.

John Pundt reported that Leadership Coos is almost full for the next year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.