

Bay Area Chamber of Commerce

Board Meeting

May 4, 2011

Board Members present: Eric Farm, Menasha Forest Products; Jerry Miller, Star of Hope; Pam de Jong, Star of Hope; Mark Mattecheck, North Bend Lanes; Renee Middleton, US Bank; Brooke Walton, Sterling Savings Bank; Matt Jarvis, Jarvis Communication; Gary Rifkin, Fiddlesticks; Crystal Shoji, Shoji Planning; Steve Schneiderman, Marshfield Bargain House; Lucinda DiNovo, The Mill Casino; Matt LeDoux, Fishermen's Wharf; Pam Plummer, Umpqua Bank;

At Large or Ex-Officio Board Members present: Patty Scott, Southwestern Oregon Community College; Joe Benetti, Airport District

Others present: Carol Yardley, Ambassadors; Joanne Moss, BAMCAM; Deborah Rudd, Tourism; Al Pettit, Hwy 101 Harley Davidson; Timm Slater, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce; Pam Cottrell, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

Eric called the meeting to order and led the Board in a salute of the flag. Introductions were made around the table. April 2011 Board minutes will be ready for approval at next month's meeting.

President's Report: Eric reports April 27th was Bay Area Chamber Day at the State Capital in Salem. Brooke Walton, Al Pettitt, Ken Messerle and he represented the Chamber. We were recognized on both the House and Senate floor. There were some "bad bills" that we were prepared to "beat the drum on". Those bills were heard the day before. At lunch we attended a Business Forum. Ken attends this meeting with other association groups, such as the restaurant association, they discuss bills that are coming up. It was a good to attend and see the process.

Brooke commented that this was a very good experience. The room was packed with business people. We were able to receive information on the Bills that are being looked at, what groups are working on the bills, and where the bills stand. This was a good experience to see that not only things are happening on a local level, but also Statewide. This was very encouraging.

Executive Report: Timm collected ballots from the board, voting on a new board member to fill open position on the board.

The chamber is in the process of applying for a credit card. The credit card application requires a motion from the board to approve the acquisition of the credit card. It was moved and seconded that the Board approves acquiring a Business Credit Card and acknowledges that the Board is responsible for the account.. The motion was approved by the Board.

Credit limit was discussed and increased from \$1000 to \$3000-\$5000 dollars.

Crystal asked that a system of check and balance be established to protect the Chamber against theft.

The Board agreed that it is just good business to have a system in place.

Committee Updates

Business Development & Support: Lucinda reports that this committee met two weeks ago. We are working on a brochure for Economic partners. It was a good meeting.

Tourism: Deborah reports that the committee met Thursday April 29th. We have some good news, the Quest project, which Coos Bay and South Slough have been working on, these two projects are being incorporated with the Newport Quest. This may bring North Coast travelers to the South Coast.

The Shopping Map is at a standstill. We are looking at ways to keep this project going, but at this time there is no funding for the shopping map. Gary will not be available next year to work on the map. I am going to talk with Marty Giles to see if there is a way to continue working on the map.

We also had a guest speaker, Patrick Burke who is working on a fund raiser for the Maslow Project. This is a project for homeless youth. He is working on bring two Rock Bands to perform during the Bay Area Fun Festival. We are working on uniting this group with the Tourism Committee to help with advertising and volunteers to help with the event.

Membership: Joanne reports that we hosted the New Member reception on April 14th at the Coos Bay Visitor Center. The reception was well attended. We are planning the next New Member reception for July 14th. We are working with the Coos Art Museum as the venue for the next reception.

This year's murder mystery " Murder at the Deadwood Saloon" will be June 4th from 7PM-10PM at Waxers. The tickets are \$25 which will include a Western Buffet. We are looking for cowboy décor and prizes.

August 25th from 6PM-9PM at the North Bend Lanes we will be hosting "Taking Care of Business III". Please start putting your teams together. We would like 14 teams of 3-8 bowlers to participate. This will be the third annual event. It has proven to be a good time. Dana is working on collecting prizes and Timm will be our Emcee.

October 29th from 8PM to 1AM will be the Monster Bash at The Mill Casino in the Salmon Room. This year tickets will include food and a band. Dana is collecting donations for prizes and Pam de Jong will be our emcee.

This committee is asking the Board to mark their calendars and help promote these fun Chamber events.

Our next meeting is scheduled for May 17th 7AM at the Coos Bay Kozy Kitchen.

Brooke reports that we are working on a power point showcasing our past events to be shown at WBC.

The new member liaison program, we have 35 members that are without a mentor. This is an important project.

Eric reminds the Board to be involved and sign up for a couple of new members to mentor.

Transportation: This committee will meet Thursday, Noon at SCBEC.

WBC: Timm reports that the schedule is full to the end of May, which ends our season. We will take a two week breather and start scheduling for 2012. This is a great networking opportunity for businesses. There are sponsor opportunities available for 2012.

Ambassadors: Carol reports that the Ambassadors are working with the Membership committee. We also continue working on our garage sale. She has posters to display in your businesses windows. If you have donations for the garage sale, please contact me for pick up.

Also working with Relay for Life, Andrew will have his Lemonade stand again this year.

Please use your Reader Boards to support events.

Natural Resources: Eric reports that fishing brings people to our area. It has been reported that each fish caught brings about \$300 to our area.

We are hosting two Chamber Days at Noble Creek on May 14th and Morgan Creek on May 26th to clip fins. This is a fun event. Please e-mail Timm at the Chamber to sign up to clip fins on one of these days.

This committee is working with the Oregon Forestry and Department of Wildlife with a letter of support to obtain \$72,000 grant to feed fish.

Morgan Creek has completed the deck that goes out to the pond. Douglas Timber Operate will hold their Board meeting at Morgan Creek on May 20th.

Legislative Action Team: Al reports that Brooke, Al and Eric went to Salem last week. There are some "bad bills" out there and at our Tele Conference we were able to make our representatives aware of these "bad bills", which allow them to stop them before they got to the legislators. It is important that we attend the teleconferences and communicate with our representatives our stand on bills. Lobbyists represent business across the state. These people are working very hard.

House Bill 2700 is being tagged as the Jobs Bill, which we are pushing for. We continue to work with the Port and support the Rail Line. The Senate is aware of the difficulties.

Representative Roblan continues to work on Bill 506, Family Leave Act. This is a bill to increase Family bereavement leave to 2 weeks. We support the Bill to be pushed back to 5 days. Representative Roblan is working to stop the Bill.

Senator Verger has the swing vote in the Senate. The Bay area, in both houses, has a strong voice. The Senate and the House realize the importance of jobs in this area.

Thursday the Ways & Means committee will hold a Teleconference at SWOCC at 4PM in Eden Hall. Please attend and show your support.

Also attend the Bi-Monthly Teleconference at SWOCC.

Marketing and Communications: Steve reports that the committee's next meeting will be Friday May 7th at Coos Bay Kozy Kitchen. The topic of the meeting will be the Chamber web site. The committee is in need of people who have knowledge of web pages.

Steve continues to work on facebook. WE have 111 active users, which is up by 24 users last week, also 38 post up 37 from last week and 71 visits up 27 from last week.

E-mail asked that you e-mail information to him, with the subject line BACC, to be posted on our facebook.

Community Reports

VCB: Mark reports that Q training is available. The VCB is working on their Webpage and are contracting with a Portland Company to connect with Travel Oregon. He will have a full report at our next meeting.

A group of us attended the Governors Conference in Eugene. Katherine received recognition and won the Social networking challenge. The CEO of Travel Oregon, Todd, knows us and we have a good working relationship.

Charleston: Matt reports that Salmon Fishing is good. The Oyster Feed at OIMB was a great event. Construction continues on the bridge. Englund Marine is completing their "super house" and the Coast Guard Boat Station is near completion. Come visit Charleston.

Coos County Airport District: Joe reports that Jet service is booked to begin in June. Please visit our website www.flyoth.com. You are able to check on flights and prices. Service is getting better. Bandon Dunes Jets are coming back.

Southwestern Oregon Community College: Patty reports that SWOCC is hosting their 50th Birthday Kick off on Sunday. Thank you Crystal for speaking and the Redcoats were there. Friday is a Foundation special meeting.

The Oregon Coast Culinary Institute is a good asset for the community. They promote the area at their competitions. They won a competition last week, which will allow them to compete in July.

The Bakery is starting up. The money goes to Oregon Coast Food share and Japan Tsunami relief.

In August they want to do an oyster shucking event.

June 10th will be our 50th Graduation. Graduation brings a lot of people to this event and we would like to streamline with other events in the area.

City of Coos Bay: Crystal invites everyone to join her in walking in the Memorial Parade on Saturday on May 28th. Wear Red, White & Blue, walk and show respect.

Also tomorrow at the Coos Bay Fire Department for 2PM-3PM there will be a Vendor Fair. Bay Area Hospital is looking for local vendors to supply the many items they will need for the hospital expansion.

Updates

Lucinda shared with the Board that she attended the Governors Conference and was impressed with Astoria's story. They raised \$80 million dollars to restore their theater. Astoria will come to our area to share their plan. It is a great success story.

Steve shared Wednesday May 25th 6PM the Sunrise Rotary will be hosting Training on Fire Safety.

Tonight at 9:15PM the Welcome to North Bend sign will be lit. There will be a reception to follow at Simpson Park.

14 applicants applied for the Coos County Commission position.

Eric announced that we had many great nominations for the open position on the BACC board. We would like to welcome Al Pettit to the Board.

We excused nonvoting members to go into Executive Session.

Meeting was adjourned after Executive Session.

