

Bay Area Chamber of Commerce

Board of Directors

June 2, 2010

Board Members present: Lucinda DiNovo, The Mill Casino/Hotel; Eric Farm, Menasha/Campbell Group; Matt LeDoux, Fishermen's Wharf; Mat Jarvis, Jarvis Communication; Dana Webber, Sterling Savings Bank, Crystal Shoji, Shoji Planning; Tina Milburn, Hough, MacAdam & Wartnik; Renee Middleton, US Bank; Pam de Jong, HOLM Services; Brooke Walton, Sterling Savings Bank; Terra Enstrom, Aviation Transportation; Matt Jarvis, Jarvis Communication; Gary Rifkin, Fiddlesticks; Margery Whitmer, Betty Kay Charters; Pam Plummer, Umpqua Bank.

AT Large or Ex-Officio Board Members present: Joe Benetti, Coos County Airport District, Sandy Messerle, South Coast Development Council; Theresa Haga, CCD; Jan Willis, City of North Bend; Martin Callery, Oregon International Port of Coos Bay.

Others present: Sherry Yarbrough, Umpqua Bank, Timm Slater, Bay Area Chamber, Pam Cottrell, Bay Area Chamber.

Lucinda called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made around the table. A correction was made in the May minutes, adding Gary Rifkin as board member present. May minutes were approved.

President's Report: Update on the membership drive, of the 112 new recruited members, 62 have paid and 50 have been re-invoiced. As agreed upon the Chamber will be hosting two New Member receptions. The first reception will be June 15th from 5:30PM – 7:30PM at the Coney Station. Light hors d'oeuvres and a no host bar will be available. An invitation has been sent to the new members asking them to attend this reception and bring five business cards with them. This will be a great networking opportunity. We encourage Board members to attend. Please call Pam at the Chamber to RSVP. Also, please mark your calendar for August 26th; as we will be hosting "Taking Care of Business II", at the North Bend Lanes. We are expecting 14 teams at \$200 per team. Please call Pam and reserve your space for your team.

Our next fund raiser will be October 30th at The Mill Casino. The Chamber will be hosting the second annual "Monster Bash". The exciting news is that The Mill Casino will not be hosting their annual Halloween party. The Monster Bash will be the only event at the facility. We are looking for passionate people to get involved. Please contact Lucinda.

Executive Director report: Timm clarified the confusion that has been voiced on the relationship that we have with Medford. Our member survey showed that members would like us to be more effective. In January a group from Coos Bay travelled to Medford after the Medford Chamber invited us to come and meet. During this visit, Medford shared their Policy and Issues that are contained in one notebook. We decided to use this notebook as a footprint to follow for our own Chamber. In the past we have learned from other Chambers successes. Leadership Coos program and Government Affairs quarterly meetings are two examples.

On June 22nd 7am to 9am, our board will be meeting with the Medford CEO and their lobbyist to find out the possible benefits to our Chamber utilizing their experiences. Medford's vision is to have a united Southern Oregon to have a stronger voice with our Legislators.

I sent you an e mail about the committees we have and who is chairing each committee. Please take a look at this list. Check with the committees that interest you and recruit others who you think may have something to contribute. We would like to see both directors and members get involved.

Leadership Coos recruits from within. If you have interest in Leadership Coos steering committee please contact Rick Keating.

Transportation committee is chaired by Bruce Bennett. They will meet this Thursday at the Port offices.

Economic Development: Pam de Jong reports that a partner questionnaire has been sent out. The plan is to have a draft of a list as who to contact when people are looking for information about bringing or expanding business in our area ready in June for the committee to look at.

Sandy Messerle is working on SDAT planning session to take place June 21-24. There are five focus groups and working groups. The public is invited to participate.

Membership Committee: Lucinda reports that the committee has asked Timm to review the notebook that we borrowed from the Medford group and give us highlights that pertain to our Chamber. It is our focus to have a notebook for Bay Area Chamber of policies and new focus. We are working on the new member receptions and monster bash.

Government Affairs: Eric reports that we took an LNG position last month. A Chromite mining meeting is scheduled for Tuesday at 7AM at the Menasha offices. Dan Smith will speak and fill in the gaps. We plan to bring a position to the Board next month.

Timm and I are working on a short letter outlining the Chambers' position on the LNG Pipeline.

Saturday at the NB Library there is a meeting on the Dunes use. Timm will attend this meeting.

Communication: Crystal reports she is working on a newsletter article to explain that the relationship between the Bay Area Chamber and the US Chamber.

We are working on a format to help Timm get the information out on to the board in short concise e-mails. The Monday Minute is very helpful to board members and is working very well.

If you have any suggestions on the type of communications that should be sent out to the board, please let us know.

Ken Croes is keeping our presents on Facebook current. If you have pictures to be posted on Facebook, please send them to Ken.

Fisheries & Forestry: Eric reports that the Salmon Derby has started our next meeting will be Tuesday the 8th of June at the Menasha offices. Expect to see a sponsorship letter coming out.

Our usual Forestry and Fisheries meeting will be the 3rd Friday at the Red Lion.

IBO: Timm reports that we have finished up the 2009-2010 season very successfully. One item that we learned is that people prefer to have IBO every Wednesday.

IBO will start up again on September 8th. We are scheduling for September and October.

Ambassadors: Pam Plummer reports that the Ambassadors are preparing to go to the annual convention. We are looking for donations for the basket we will take to the convention to be raffled. This basket in the past has offered local products and gift certificates. We like to focus on the winner of the basket to visit our area.

Tourism: Margery reports that regional trails link is being revitalized and will link through the Chamber. They are working on the Quest program. This is a type of scavenger hunt to encourage people to learn about our area. This concept was borrowed from Newport. You receive a booklet that has clues on places to visit in the area. When you visit the place you receive a stamp in your booklet. It has been a very successful program in Newport.

We are concerned on the safety issues that the Chromites mining traffic may have on the biking path from Charleston to Bandon.

Work continues on a shopping map for our area. The map will show entertainment spots in the area, focus on Businesses in the area and events or places of interest. This map will be distributed through the Chamber and local motels.

Chamber members will be offered a spot to the map with name in bold letter and contact information.

Non Chamber members are welcome to have a spot on the map, with less information available and their name will not be in bold type.

Charleston: Matt reports the Salmon fishing has started and Halibut season will end at the month's end. We are seeing people coming to the area for the Salmon opener.

The Marine Reserve recommendation committee is putting a map together to look at areas and issues that may be affected by Marine Reserves.

SDDC: Sandy reports that the SDAT process is a county wide sustainable growth project. A three member team came and visited us in March. They toured our county to get an idea of our area. This team is returning with five areas of concentration. Those areas will be Land use and planning, Downtown Revitalization & Preservation; Water & Environment; Regional Transportation and Regional Economic Development. The steering committee went over the check list that the team sent to us. We have one small change and that is to add an additional town hall meeting to allow people to add their input. We will have break out sessions to focus on five areas. The team leader/project leader is Soren Simonson, also on the team is Wayne Feidan, J.Todd Scott, Joan Herron , Hannah Twaddell and Nancy Steele make up the team. This will be a three day meeting process at SOCC with a power point presentation which is the initial assessment from the SDAT committee being presented on the 24th of June 6:30 at Hale Center at SOCC.

Airport: Joe reports that two flights added to the North and three flights to the south. Grant money for Skywest has been withdrawn. They are encouraged with the south bound flights are 80 % full. We will be meeting with Skywest , continuing to build a relationship and keep moving forward.

We are proud to announce the opening of the Gift shop that will be operated by the House of Myrtlewood.

CCD: Theresa reports that they are getting ready for their annual meeting. We will be doing site visits and are looking at readapting their web site.

City of North Bend: Jan reports that the boardwalk is coming along. The dedication is planned for later in June. We have negotiated six parking spaces from the county for Hotel North Bend. Also working on the viability on a parking lot at the corner of California and Union. We have a completed a block grant for a Domestic Shelter. Also working on a new program sponsored by the city of North Bend. This is a \$80,000 grant designed to help businesses.

Transportation: Martin reports for the current Connect Oregon Program, the Port and Railroad were voted second in state, first in the Southwest Oregon and first in our ODOT region. We are coming to the end of \$2.5 million renovation and plan to continue with additional funding. The critical work is completed. Design II is much more complicated. We will continue the process with consultants.

Lucinda announced we will go into Executive Session. She asked that all voting Directors to stay, non voting members are excused.

Treasurer Report: Timm report the finances are equal to previous months. Past months we gained \$8400 in new members, for a normal year the amount would be \$1400. There is about \$20,000 still owing to us from the membership drive. We would be sitting healthier if the new member pledges paid their dues along with a handful of on going members that have not paid their dues.

We have people coming into the office all the time asking for applications for membership. This is due to your work in promoting the value of being a Chamber member.

Lucinda reminds everyone of the New Member reception on June 15th , 5:30pm – 7:30 pm at Coney Station.

Adjourned.

