

Present: Frank Bourree (Chair), Dan Dagg, Natasha Reger, Jared Webb, Nigel Brown, Mark Smith, John Wilson, Capt. (N) Steve Waddell, Sang-Kiet Ly, Dee Govang, Kathleen Burton, Gary Kinar, Troy MacDonald, Patricia Jelinski, Kathy Khouri, Bruce Carter (CEO), Janet Crocker (Staff)

Regrets: Al Hasham, Mark Mawhinney, Tom Roemer

1) Additions to agenda:

Policy section: add Increasing Rental Inventory through Fair Taxation (2015)

New Business: First Nations Economic Development board

Film industry

Motion to approve February agenda as amended.

Moved by: Mark Smith

Seconded by: Dan Dagg

Carried

2) **Motion to approve January board minutes.**

Moved by: Dan Dagg

Seconded by: Troy MacDonald

Carried

3) **Motion to approve January financial statements.**

Both membership retention and membership sales have increased year to date.

Moved by: Kathleen Burton

Seconded by: Gary Kinar

Carried

4) Policy

a. Diversity Policy – Vancouver Board of Trade

Policy and Government Affairs committee set up task force to look at diversity and will make recommendations to the committee.

Vancouver Board of Trade Women's Leadership Network potentially putting forward diversity policy for BC Chamber. Staff to follow up and determine if The Chamber can support.

b. March 2nd Nanaimo

Meeting with Island chambers hosted by BC Chamber. Chair, CEO and staff to attend.

5) Policy

Motion: to approve *Increasing Rental Inventory through Fair Tax Treatment (2015)* policy.

Moved by: Gary Kinar

Seconded by: Dee Govang

Carried

6) Our Vibrant Community

a. Monitoring Municipal Decisions

Committee thought there would be great value in monitoring council voting records. CEO identified that there is no internal capacity to conduct this research.

7) Peer Advisory Groups

a. Committee Appointments

Natasha Reger provided committee update. Committee is identifying best ways to implement advisory groups. The Ministry responsible has come out with funding for small business. Also, met with BC Chamber regarding peer advisory groups. Committee meeting to look at next steps. CEO interested in upfront costs to see if we want to fund it and run provincially.

Motion: Develop terms of reference for the committee.

Moved by: Dan Dagg

Seconded by: Kathleen Burton

Carried

8) Business Awards

a. Update

Nominations for business awards now closed. Staff now working on gathering application forms from nominees. Six award categories still needing sponsorship.

9) Confidentiality Agreements

a. Board (Attached)

b. Volunteer (Attached)

Motion: Replace “president” and “vice-president” with “chair” and “vice-chair.”

Moved by: Mark Smith

Seconded by: Sang-Kiet Ly

Carried

10) Budget Post Mortem

The Chamber highlighted two areas in the budget, the Digital Media tax credit extension and the expansion of the Animation & Visual Effects tax credit to include post-production work. Relevant to both the video gaming and film industry locally.

The BC Budget allows for increases to the hotel tax from two to three per cent. Details on this will be made available later in the year.

11) Strategic Plan

Working on current business plan to be completed for May for the next 18 months.

12) Committees

a. Terms of Reference

Committee chairs to work on their terms of reference at next committee meetings and provide board with any updates for approval.

b. Work Plans (Sample report attached)

Work plans including priority areas and annual objectives should be included in committee reports to board. Chairs are encouraged to report or add agenda items to board meeting when needed. Two committees will provide a verbal report at each board meeting. Peer Advisory Groups and Governance committee to report at next board meeting on March 24th.

13) Government St/ Economic Revitalization

Update on discussions on closing Government Street. The Chamber is in favour of what the merchants on Government Street want regarding street closures. The Chamber has not identified any members on Government Street that are in favour or that have been consulted on such closures.

Regarding tax incentives for Government Street revitalization - The Chamber is happy to discuss but warns that it would be complex to implement.

14) Economic Development

a. Committee Chair

Dan Dagg reports update. GVDA is working on a succession plan, Dan to be incoming chair of GVDA, Craig Norris vice-chair and additional positions of a Finance Chair and Executive Large.

GVDA met with Nils Jensen and Bob Lapham from the Capital Regional District regarding CRD funding to GVDA. They seemed receptive to the idea.

b. Project Update

GVDA is looking at reallocating funds within the WD project.

c. Foreign Owned Companies

15) Chamber Week – Recap

Chair's report: excellent Chamber Week including photo opportunities with local mayors and Ministers. Both the Minister Yamamoto and Minister de Jong event were successful events. Eight events were held during Chamber Week, seven were extremely successful.

16) Speakers

a. Mike Corrigan – confirmed

Luncheon event confirmed for April 22nd

b. Mike Harcourt

Regional governance topics, concerns with draw for event.

- c. Jim Prentice – working to connect
Staff working on coordination for Premier’s next visit to BC.

- 17) Cruise Industry
CEO to attend industry meeting in Seattle. The event has expanded its reach with several representative from Greater Victoria attending. Cruise industry is incredibly important to our members.

- 18) Chair’s Remarks
The Chamber will be renovating the office. Lease options will be brought to the board in May.

- 19) CEO remarks
 - a. Government Street
As stated above.

- 20) NEW BUSINESS
 - a. First Nations Economic Development
GVHA is a third partner in the new economic development agency Skwin’ang’eth Se’las Development Company (SSD Co). They are looking for board nominations, deadline is March 3rd.

 - b. Film industry
Film industry struggling in community to coordinate events. Chamber to assist where possible.

- 21) In Camera Session

Motion to Adjourn

Moved by: Gary Kinar
Seconded by: Kathleen Burton
Carried

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday March 24, 2015



Secretary



Chair



Date