

Minutes –

Chamber Board Meeting – Sept.

28, 2021 | 7:30 – 9:00am

**THE
CHAMBER.**

GREATER VICTORIA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

In Person: John Wilson, Rose Arseneault, Richard Michaels, Ian Batey, Bruce Williams, Cheryl Wirch-Ryckman (staff).

Virtual: Christina Clarke, Judith Ethier, Pedro Marquez, Moira Hauk, Kris Wirk, Raul Caballero, Ann Squires-Ferguson, Dan Dagg, Tom Plumb

Representative: Danielle Smith, Captain (Navy) Jeff Hutchinson

1. Approval of the agenda and minutes:

Motion to approve agenda as is.

Moved by Moira Hauk

Seconded by Dan Dagg

Carried

Motion to approve minutes from previous board meeting.

Clarification of minutes under Prodigy Committee – Canada will become this fall the 2nd most successful venue for International Students.

Moved by Rose Arseneault

Seconded by Pedro Marquez

Carried

2. Chair

a. General comments

Entering the fall and so very proud of what The Chamber Board, team have done to survive and thrive during the pandemic. The resiliency and advocacy have made difference for our members and our community. Cruise ship legislation pending in the states remains a major issue. Safety in the city remains an alarming situation and work is needed to find a solution. The Chamber's role in advocacy and providing guidance for elected officials on what business needs is truly essential.

b. Parking for board members

Moving forward if the meetings for the board extend beyond the 9am, The Chamber will cover your parking. Simply provide the street parking number to Cheryl at the beginning of the meeting.

c. Extension of GVHA Board Position approved

Christine Willow is The Chamber's representative at the GVHA. It was requested that her term be extended as The Chamber's representative at the GVHA. Due to the shortness of the request this was approved at the Executive level.

d. Chamber Member of the Year (attached)

Request to put forward a name to be the sixth Chamber Member of the Year. Email your completed nomination(s) to the Managing Director.

3. CEO

a. Meetings with stakeholders to talk about safety in the downtown. There has been a request from the BC Chamber to chambers across the province to answer a survey on BC Chamber current and future directions for the BC Chamber. This survey will be circulated to our board. The BC Chamber is down to a single employee supported by several contractors as they begin a shift to a new game plan. Work continues with Island Chambers to focus on advocacy priorities for the island.

b. Candidate listening sessions prior to the Federal Election were very successful. Work with post-secondary institutes to connect students and employers. Connected VIHA and GV Festival Society to brainstorm ways to recognize our health care workers. CEO will be part of VIEA presenters and attending the Canadian Chamber AGM which are concurrent. CEO is also part of the BIPOC committee for the Canadian Chamber.

c. 5 Chamber Mixer is still pending.

d. Marine Border reopening. The Chamber was instrumental in getting the border open and engaging CBSA. This was in large part due to the Prime Minister's office response days before the election began. The Chamber orchestrated a flotilla to welcome back the Clipper to Victoria in concert with Destination Greater Victoria and the City of Victoria.

e. Business Hall of Fame the first 5 inductees were announced this week. The Chamber AGM

f. Membership Survey top-level results. Congratulations to the team on the positive customer service and recommendations from our membership

g. Board Election had solid candidates and good engagement from our members

i. Set Board Nomination Committee

Motion to appoint the past chair, chair and vice-chair to the Nominating Committee.

Moved by Pedro Marquez

Seconded by Christina Clarke

Carried

h. Letters of Support

There has been a flurry of recent requests from members in particular festival grants and tourism opportunities.

4. Committee Reports

a. Executive & Governance Committee (covered above, minutes attached)

- i. Award/committee recipients under investigation next steps
Will add to the nomination forms a clause that allows The Chamber to remove an award in the case of an investigation.
- ii. Nomination papers – from three to two nominations
Recommendation to refine process around board nominations from three members to two members.
Motion to update the Board Nomination papers to two signatures
Moved by Ian Batey
Seconded by Ann Squires-Ferguson
Carried

b. Finance & Audit

- i. KPIs (attached)
- ii. August (attached)
Motion to approve the August Financials as presented.
Moved by Moira Hauk
Seconded by Kris Wirk
Carried

c. Public Policy & Advocacy Committee

Met with Ryan Burles from Black Ball Ferry and the reopening of the marine border. In the coming month we're meeting with the new Cdn Chamber policy person. One of the top issues going forward remains as downtown safety, stakeholders for this topic have been identified and will be reviewed as a subcommittee to report back to the policy committee as a whole. Work continues with the Canadian Chamber on identifying a way to

- i. Canadian Chamber AGM and Policy Resolutions

d. Ambassador Committee – presentation from Ryan Davies Jack Insurance

Looking forward to live events

e. Prodigy Committee

Very successful first live event in September with 3 locations with walks in various parts of the region. International students and local business event scheduled for

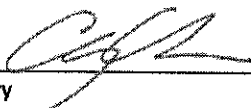
- Motion to accept Board Committee Reports as presented.**
Moved by Ian Batey
Seconded by Tom Plumb
Carried

5. Events Intro to the Board – Ashley McCartie

6. Next meeting November 26th full day Board Planning session

- Motion to adjourn**
Moved by Rose Arsenault
Seconded by Richard Michaels
Carried

Secretary



Chair

