

## **VASHON MAURY ISLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Date/Time:** August 10, 2011

**Location:** Puget Sound Energy Conference Room

**Presiding:** Patti McClements, President

**Attending:** Patti McClements, President, Barbara Stratton, V.P., Laura Griffith, Treasurer, Nancy Sipple, Secretary, Debi Richards, E.D., Linda Bianchi, Alison Bockus, Gib Dammann, Andrew Davis, Ken Maaz, Priscilla Schleigh Kimmel, Natalie Sheard, Sue Stinson, Ad. Assistant

**Absent/Excused:** Melinda Sontgerath, Molly Reed

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:** Meeting was called to order at 8:05am.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Correction: Portage "Fill", not "Phil". Ken moved and Barb seconded that the minutes be approved as corrected. All were in favor. Later in the meeting another correction was discussed. Concerning the controversy over Festival's use of a street adjacent to a merchant's business, it was suggested that the name of the merchant be removed from the minutes. Gib moved and Barb seconded that the minutes be approved as amended. All were in favor.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

**Move to new Building:** The lease is signed and the move is underway. Some things have been moved already. Goal: complete move by the end of next week. Most critical: IT and phones. Help would be appreciated on the morning of 8/20.

**Board Terms:** Decided: a new BOD member must have been a Chamber member 6 months. Application for the Board will include bio and photo. Discussion: BOD expectations, involvement, participation. The Board approved a document Patti prepared listing these expectations.

**Nominating Committee:** Linda, Patti and Priscilla will meet in September. Meanwhile, Debi will email a list of BODs who are up for reelection or retiring etc.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

**Update:** The Chamber is currently spending Festival money which is according to plan. Laura and Debi have done cash flow projections through 2012 based on some assumptions: future Strawberry Festival earnings, dues income, membership levels etc. Money is going to be tight, and the Board must be cautious about new expenditures. Discussion: the Street Dance on 9/10 and its cost and expectations. For the near future, any new event must be at least revenue neutral.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**Strawberry Festival:** There was a lengthy discussion of the event. Income was down \$3000 from last year, but considering the weather, that is not bad. Booths income was down \$800. The beer garden was up \$3000 with only 1 incident. There was a good response from Vashon's business owners to the post-Festival survey. We need to carefully analyze the Festival report, line by line, and determine what elements need to change. Discussion: should we change the name "Strawberry Festival" to something that emphasizes "art"? Plan: have a meeting dedicated to the Strawberry Festival with the goal of firm decisions at the end.

(Secretary Nancy Sipple had to leave the meeting at 10:30. The remainder of the minutes were taken by Ad. Assistant Sue Stinson.)

**Welcome Vashon & Shop Local First Directory:** Discussion of *Welcome Vashon* and *Shop Local First* directories were tabled. Feeling of group was that we could not go forward on any of these things until a strategic planning meeting was held to decide what the Chamber's goals and duties are. Placing these

items on hold forced a discussion on the importance of the strategic planning session to happen soon (prior to BOD election) and meeting dates were discussed.

The strategic planning meeting is tentatively planned for Wednesday, October 5, from 3:00-8:00pm. 100% participation is the goal so it will depend on the response of those not at the meeting today as to whether that day works. It was suggested that everyone pay \$20 for dinner which will be ordered from La Playa Mexican Restaurant. There was discussion of a facilitator and a couple of names were mentioned. Priscilla will make inquiry to one of the names mentioned to see if this is something he would be interested in doing it. The new Chamber office location was suggested as the location for the strategic planning session.

**Thank you to Jack Dunn:** Debi said that Jack Dunn, our volunteer summer intern, will be returning to school on Monday, 8/15. He will attend the potluck on Sunday. Suggestion: a thank you gift for him. \$50 was suggested first and then raised to \$100. Agreed: a \$100 Amazon gift card would be given to Jack as a “thank you”.

**Strawberry Festival Volunteer Potluck:** Debi reminded everyone of the “thank you” potluck planned for Sunday, 8/21, at her house. Gib and Natalie said they had not received the Evite.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Membership Committee:** Debi distributed lists of new/renewed members for past 2 months. BODs still in attendance at this meeting signed up to contact them. Sue will email the list to other Board members to fill in the blanks.

**Big Square Street Dance:** The Board had discussed the dance earlier in the meeting. Gib planned to talk further with Debi and Patti after the meeting.

**New Member Welcome Packet:** Liz Lewis will supply us with a prototype of a mug at the end of August. Ken reported that he is working with a local printer for note pads. Everyone is anxious for window clings and would like to get those ordered as soon as possible. Discussion: do we want the year on the window cling? It would be more expensive. Debi stated that she would have no trouble removing a window cling from a non-member’s window.

**ADJOURN:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:50pm

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** September 14, 2011, 8:30am, Puget Sound Energy Conference Room  
*Nancy Sipple, Secretary, and Sue Stinson Ad. Assistant, Vashon Maury Island Chamber of Commerce*