

**Attending:** John Wilson, Dan Dagg, Moira Hauk, Christina Clarke, Carmen Charette, Pedro Marquez, Catherine Holt, Paul van Koll, Ian Batey, Kris Wirk, Brianna Green, Rose Arsenault, Tom Plumb, Judith Ethier, Captain (Navy) Sam Sader, Cheryl Wirch-Ryckman (staff).

### 1. Agenda/Minutes

Motion to approve agenda as is.

**Moved by Pedro Marquez**

**Seconded by Rose Arsenault**

**Carried**

**Additions – Brian Small - 25 year CEO – recent passing**

**Government Procurement model**

Motion to approve minutes from previous board meeting.

**Moved by Moira Hauk**

**Seconded by Christina Clarke**

**Carried**

### 2. Chair's Remarks

Welcome to the 2020 Board. An overview of The Chamber, our role in the region, advocacy priorities and housekeeping for the board was provided. In particular the advocacy issue of Safe Communities was highlighted as a key advocacy issue for The Chamber. One of the key goals for 2020 is identifying ways to grow the membership. Doing so increases The Chamber's influence, diversity and voice in the community as well as providing a healthy foundation of dues to sustain The Chamber.

Events have started strong as the new decade launches. January has already had a number of events, including a sold out event with BC Housing. Mixers and Mingles are both enjoying good attendance. Business Awards nominations have closed and there was great interest in the program. Lifetime Achievement recipient for this year is Bill McCreadie.

There is an upcoming by-election in Victoria for a city council and this represents a significant opportunity for the business community to have a voice in the municipal election. The Chamber will promote the fact that any property owner in a municipality can vote in a by-election. Our Place Breakfast will be served by the Board on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Board revisited an annual membership with BC Chamber, reviewing the decision last year to decline BC Chamber membership in and discussing if anything is different in 2020. Although there is clear value in BC Chamber membership, the value of the membership is more on par with the Canadian Chamber. The current pricing model for the BC Chamber is more than 4x that of the Canadian Chamber membership. One of the key points that the BC Chamber highlighted as a benefit is MindReader. This program was not seen to have sufficient benefit to warrant a change in the original decision.

Motion that the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce decline membership in BC Chamber in 2020, to be revisited in 2021.

**Moved by Ian Batey**

**Seconded by Rose Arsenault**

**Carried**

General Manager of The Chamber from 1969 to 1994, Brian Small, has recently passed away. Brian did a tremendous amount of work over his 25 years to grow our community and the profile of The Chamber. There was a discussion around the table on how best to honour his passing and his contributions. The Board recommended the development of a more sustainable policy rather than ad hoc one on how to recognize efforts such as this. The Executive committee was tasked with bringing back a recommendation to the Board.

Review of 2020 Terms of Reference for The Chamber's committees took place.

Motion to approve the Terms of Reference for the 2020 Committees.

**Moved by Paul van Koll**

**Seconded by Sam Sader**

**Carried**

**3. Finance & Audit Committee**

The financials for 2019 resulted in a net positive result. Accolades to The Chamber staff for their hard work in maintaining a healthy financial statement. Investment account is performing well.

Motion to accept the financials as presented.

**Moved by Moira Hauk**

**Seconded by Judith Ethier**

**Carried**

**4. CEO Report**

The CEO presented the Business Plan for 2021. The Board was presented with a review of benchmarking, outcomes for 2019 and goals for 2020.

One of the priorities for the business plan discussion is retaining a diverse membership to ensure that The Chamber continues to represent the entire business community with integrity. Discussion around how the Board report provides outcomes, at the staff level there are additional metrics including leading indicators being applied. A request was made to change how staffing is measured. Moving from turnover as a metric to retention. A change was made to the goal as it is unrealistic to assume 100% retention. Recommendations include a staff exit interview to be done by a third party and benchmarking against other similar organizations.

**Moved by Judith Ethier**

**Seconded by Tom Plumb**

**Carried**

**5. Committee Reports**

**Executive & Governance Committee's** draft minutes were reviewed. Including a new initiative in recognition of the board's time and financial commitment to the ongoing success of The Chamber, tickets to Business Leader lunches for that board member will be 10% off as of February 1, 2020. Please notify Events Manager of your intent to attend.

**Public Policy & Advocacy Committee** first meeting of the year went well with Frank Leonard in January and invite to whole board to hear from GVHA Ian Robertson on February 5.

**Prodigy Group** has declined sponsorship of TP the Town for 2020 and will do PowerPlay this year. Prodigy Group is at full complement.

**Ambassador Committee** is doing well and John will attend the march meeting as a speaker.

Motion to accept the Executive, Policy, Prodigy & Ambassador Reports as presented.

**Moved by Kris Wirk**

**Seconded by Carmen Charette**

**Carried**

**6. New Business**

Motion to go in Camera

**Moved by Moira Hauk**

**Seconded by Judith Ethier**

**Carried**

Motion to go out of Camera

**Moved by Kris Wirk**

**Seconded by Paul van Koll**

**Carried**

**7. Next Meeting – Tuesday, March, 2020 - 7:30 – 9:30am**

Motion to adjourn

**Moved by Judith Ethier**

**Seconded by Kris Wirk**

**Carried**

Secretary

Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_