

Minutes –

Chamber Board Meeting –

Dec 1, 2023 | 7:30 – 8:30am | Brentwood Bay Resort



GREATER VICTORIA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Invited: Kris Wirk, Christina Clarke, Richard Michaels, Rose Arsenault, Captain (Navy) Kevin Whiteside, Ann Squires-Ferguson, James Gatsi, Frumsa Ibrahim, Judith Ethier, Jessica Stigant, Pedro Marquez, John Wilson, Josue Dubon, Bruce Williams, Cheryl Wirch-Ryckman (staff).

Regrets: Moira Hauk

We are gathered in the ancestral lands of the WSÁNEĆ Nations known to us as {WJOLELP (Tsartlip), BOKÉĆEN (Pauquachin), SĀAUTW (Tsawout) and WSIKEM (Tseycum)} who have been the stewards of these lands for thousands of years.

Motion to approve the agenda.

MOVED by Pedro Marquez SECONDED by Rose Arsenault CARRIED

Motion to approve the Minutes from the previous meeting.

MOVED by Judith Ethier SECONDED by Jeff Hutchinson CARRIED

1) Chair

A welcome was offered to new 2024 Board members - 2024 Emerge Chair Frumsa Ibrahim; Dean Clarke, Family Business representative as well as Capt. Kevin Whiteside, Base Commander and representative of CFB Esquimalt. In October the Board Executive met with the Port Angeles Chamber. A reminder of Board Attendance expectations asking that the board make themselves available for all meetings, various events and miss no more than two Board meetings. It was an informative exchange of ideas and demonstrated the advantages of a stronger working relationship. CEO will be the keynote speaker at one of their upcoming events.

Save our Streets (SOS) is a new movement in BC looking to deal with safety for frontline staff and issues with theft. There are several stakeholders provincially including BCRFA, DVBA, Surrey Board of Trade, etc. including the Greater Victoria Chamber. The Chamber CEO has been asked to be a spokesperson in addition to being a supportive stakeholder for the movement.

2) Executive & Governance Committee

The Chair of the Governance Committee reviewed the process behind the Nomination Committee and encouraged Board members to talk about their journey as a Board member. Discussion around the appointment of a new Board member to replace the loss of the 2023 Treasurer. The CEO and Executive put forward a recommendation of a highly qualified candidate to the Board.

Motion to appoint Deborah Huelscher to The Chamber Board for a one-year appointment ending in December 31, 2024

MOVED by Ann Squires Ferguson SECONDED by Jessica Stigant CARRIED

Motion to accept the recommendation of the Nomination Committee as presented with the amendment to appoint Deborah Huelscher to the Executive in the role of Treasurer and Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee and Rose Arsenault to the Emerge Committee.

MOVED by Richard Michaels SECONDED by Pedro Marquez CARRIED

Motion to approve the Terms of Reference for the Ambassador, Emerge, Executive & Governance Committee, Finance & Audit, and IDEA for 2024.

MOVED by Rose Arsenault SECONDED by Pedro Marquez CARRIED

2024 external board appointments have been completed with the exception of the Film Commission which is still pending. Discussions ensued about the importance of Board appointees understanding that they have a responsibility to report back to The Chamber Board as our liaison.

Action items: Look at an onboarding for these appointments. Assign a Board member to liaise with those Board Appointees. Staff to create a 1 or two pager outlining the role of an appointee to an external organization.

Review of the nominees for The Chamber Member of the Year and discussion about the invaluable contributions they each brought to The Chamber membership and Board. An anonymous vote was held to determine the successful Member.

Motion to accept the 2024 Chamber Member of the Year as James Gatsi.

MOVED by Rose Arsenault SECONDED by Josue Dubon CARRIED

