

**Fremont Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting
May 28, 2014
History House of Greater Seattle**

Attending: Phil Meganhardt, Sean Erdhardt, Rodman Miller, Kathy Moeller, Pete Hanning, Paul Nordstrand, Raymond Glandon, Jessica Vets, Ryan Reiter, Susan Fuller

Guests: Jennifer Beus, PCC Natural Market , Kerston Swartz, Zoo, Brian Hollister, Chase Bank

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 AM

Introduction by **Phil Meganhardt**

Motion to approve the April Board Meeting Minutes made by **Marko Tubic**, seconded by **Pete Hanning** with comment about spelling were **APPROVED**.

Executive Director's Report:

Jessica gave report on Membership: Calendar of Awesomeness – now printed, much happening, 30/60/90 report – sean will use this as a – new and renewals

Introductions around the room

Executive Committee:

Phil—discussion of finances to make sure we are on track for cash flow and building our reserves.
Marko – some discussion FAC Solstice Parade, along with local outreach, outreach to bars to kick in a little more. Pete also mentioned XXXX

Finance Committee – Postponed to wait for Riq

Membership:

Phil asked Kerston about her presence at the meeting today. **Kerston** talked about how this is really part of her position to do outreach to local community

Programs – Picnic need politicians, **Kirby** suggested letting people who are going to attend tell the politicians what the issues are... Picnic in the park manifesto – these are the issues. Too early to get candidates, but not too early for issues. Districts 4 & 6 odd. Pete will reach back out to Andrew Stone about coming to speak – get a group of leads to take notes on the issues that people have to create a Fremont manifesto.

Marketing & Retail Committee

Pre-opening, on Monday, June 2 for PCC Green Lake

Jennifer talked about security and about learning the store, really too new to really know, but have been keeping on the normal.

Talk about break-ins – **Jennifer** talked with Loren Street and partner, Dave Gordon about the coverage in Fremont area, only 4 officers in the area. Need to call more, use of 911 helps get our numbers up to get better coverage.

Raymond has heard that Real Change people have been selling marijuana – Kirby mentioned that was really only one person.

Phil – Retail changes in Fremont, there is a number of things changing in Fremont – Thai new remodel, Starbucks, Kirby mentioned the new Cider place – Shillings next to Old School Frozen Custard

Major Events

Marko reported that we are making great progress with the Fremont Arts Council, they are at a great point where they want to expand, but they just don't have a "Jessica" to allow them to expand the way they want. Phil and Marko attended a FAC Board meeting, along with other meetings. Marko wants to see the FCC help them financially as much as we can. Lon Heneman

Marko reported that we are making great progress with the Fremont Arts Council, they are at a great point where they want to expand, but they just don't have a "Jessica" to allow them to expand the way they want. Phil and Marko attended a FAC Board meeting, along with other meetings. Marko wants to see the FCC help them financially as much as we can. Jon Hegeman and Linda Hanlon are working on a more long term effort to develop funding, but at this time the crunch is really on to get funding for this year's event. But there is a real feeling that we can move this ahead and reach and make this so much more. Core group at FAC are super passionate, and creative. Biggest thing that they need is funding – **Marko asks that the Board all join the FAC to help them and show support.** Together the FCC and FAC can really make Fremont so much more and can do more together.

Rodman points out FAC is a catalyst for change, there was question about the number of members that FAC has – people think about 70 paid members.

Pete kept us on track and asked Phil for an update about the Fremont Fair. **Phil** talked about the word Solstice, that we have used that in our concert series has upset many at the FAC. Trying to work through that, **Jennifer** asked why this would upset anyone, **Marko** responded that some feel this is cooping the name that the FAC has used for many years. Marko had made a personal appeal to FAC Board to just get through the event and talk about this after the event is over – the first week after the event we can discuss, but at this point we need to be on task. **Pete** points out that the Fremont Fair was here first and there needs to some acknowledgement of this too. **Phil** made the point that the word "solstice" is the language of the people, and that is how people refer to the weekend, so who is coopting what... working on this together can only help to pull us all up. **Marko** pointed out that there are many people along the parade route that do not give any money – when the FAC reached out to Mardi Gras Parade organizers, they advised the FAC to be more aggressive with the ask and how you encourage. **Kerston** asked how the FAC asks, there was mixed response around the room – some felt the "ask" was good, some felt the "ask" has been weak and needs to stepped up. The big point was that they are on a tipping point, it's a healthy time to look at finances and where to go next. Marko said the next step for the FCC, would be to see more FCC Board members stepping up to help the FAC move forward. Marko is thinking of having a mixer at his house a week after the Parade to vet issues.

Phil gave an update on the Fremont Fair – the Police Mobile precinct is back this year, which is great to better understand what is happening in the neighborhood. **Raymond** pointed out for safety, that PCC has a defibrillator in the store, might do an inventory of safety equipment that is already out there.

Phil continued with Fair update: Posters are disappearing, which is awesome – people love them! Printing more since they are such a success. Things are really looking good, still some areas that need to be finalized, for instance not sure where the Art Cars will be, but area is coming together well. This year's event will have a gated element with a concert on Friday and Saturday nights – Built to Spill on Friday. Will be interesting to see if the second year of a 3pm start for the Parade will make for a spike again or if last year's trend to be more all day will continue.

Kirby asked about FAC beer garden and float move. **Phil** answered about float move, that is shifting from N 35th St to N 36th St. this will require a permit, but this is good for all – a quicker, more direct route to the parade start. Sunday the stage on N 35th disappear and the yoga and dog parade are in that area. Red Hook Main Stage is only at 5pm at night. Ticket sales in the thousands now, sell out is 2500, so we are close, goal is to not sell any tickets at the door. CleanScapes all the same.

Phil went on to talk about the FAC Beer Garden, at the Sixgill is a new element. This came to FCC through the Sixgill. The issue is that they want to use an outside door, which requires a special occasion license, the proceeds would go to FAC, but the ask to FAC is that they use the same security – Staff Pro, same as 9 Million – so that everyone is communicating about the flow and the people going in and out of all the beer gardens. Yesterday was a meeting with the City to talk about the Police and Medic, for the Parade and Solstice Celebration at Gas Works Park, the FAC was not able to attend, but still a good discussion with Phil and Jessica.

Financial Committee Report - Jessica reported that the reserves that we thought we had have eroded little by little over time.

Fremont Fair –

Pete asked the historical give to Fremont Fair Give. **Jessica** reminded the group that this is the first year of this grant cycle. **Phil** went on to talk about the historical give from Bold Hat. **Phil** highlighted, that we have \$7500 to give from the Fremont Fair for the granting process. Fremont

Pete asked the historical give to Fremont Fair Give. **Jessica** reminded the group that this is the first year of this grant cycle. **Phil** went on to talk about the historical give from Bold Hat. **Phil** highlighted, that we have \$7500 to give from the Fremont Fair for the granting process. Fremont Abbey requested money for a stage, there is no need for that stage, so that money is not needed to give. Suzie at the committee meeting talked about giving money to grants instead of to Solid Ground from this year's Fremont Fair revenue. Moved \$2600 from Hopscotch and using \$3900 from this year's fair to come to the recommended amount to fully fund the Fremont Arts Council. **Marko** makes the point what organization needs money now. **Pete** commented about the various groups, Fremont Abbey seems clear, kids area, **Pete** does not feel comfortable giving as much to the Arts Cars and not giving as much to the. **Phil** responded that the conversation was very long and that he would like to see the Board just approve the recommendations without changes. **Pete** retorted, that we have all spent a lot of time and would like to see the FAC as the first and foremost group. **Kirby** mentions that everything that was said about the FAC could be said about SACBO (Art Cars) and that they are in just as much need and just as much a shoestring budget. **Phil** brought the group back to thinking about the mission of the Fair – this is a creative event and we should focus on the awesomeness of the creativity and respect that all the groups. **Pete** would like to give more to all and stating his opinion. **Phil** talked about how the committee discussion was centered on giving as much to all as possible with the given budget, but we need to Riq to approve this recommendation. **Jessica** said that the Board could move to approve pending Riq's approval. **Phil** then mentioned that the Bars could also contribute to this fund to give the FCC a donation to help us get the \$3900 to allow us to give more money to Solid Ground later. **Pete** asked that the ask to the Bars be specific

Marko asked when the money is needed, **Phil** said as an event coordinator he knows that many of the bills come in after the event. However, there is some need to get money now, especially SACBO. **Phil** asked Ron at the 7-11, if he can help and he can with a wholesale gas fill up in one shot.

Marko made a motion that at least 50% of the FAC money to be given ASAP, **Kathy** seconded the motion, the motion was **Tabled**

Discussion about the motion: **Ryan** agreed that when the money comes is huge, people never acknowledge that if the Parade goes away that would be bad, it is the thing that people talk about since it is the main thing. **Phil** agreed, **Susan** asked for clarification if Riq does not approve what then. **Phil** responded that it really is up to the treasurer to determine what we can do in terms of cash flow. **Phil** agrees that everyone needs the money now, but that is not reality – the \$7500 from Fremont Fair has not come in yet, the \$3900 from the Fremont Chamber's Fremont Fair funding has not come in yet. **Marko** commented that he can table motion to allow vote on the approval of the recommendations. Also appeal to bar owns to make a donation to help us with this shortcoming.

Phil responded to **Marko's** ask, that we are not following our process and that by not following the process we are not respecting our own organization. Discussion continued about when the money is needed. **Pete** commented that it is very good that we are starting up a grant process, but we need to look at the grant process sooner next year – might look at actually making two grants, one comes well before the event and the other lags the event to cover organizational infrastructure.

Marko makes a motion that we approve the recommendations from the Grants committee with no obligation to pay before event. **Phil** seconded the motion, discussion: Call for vote: 8 approved, 2 opposed, motion **Approved**.

Pete made a motion that up to 50% of the amount, whatever we can fiscally afford we give before. **Phil** stopped the motion and asked that we follow the process and allow the finance committee to give what we can, when we can.

Phil mentioned the long-term marketing plan that is part of our annual goals

Awards for May — **Pete** wants to award Ballroom for being a leader to give to FAC, **Tamara** from the Ballroom has been a great leader with the bars to get events happening in Fremont. **Marko** nominated **Ryan** for food truck rodeo – beyond mobile, mobility to being flexible to accommodate.

Kirby – close quote from Barb Leuke, "This is a community that likes to say yes!!"

Phil moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.

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Minutes submitted by **Jessica Vets**