

**Fremont Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting  
August 26 2015  
Saturn Building, #310**

**Attending:** Phil Megenhardt, Marko Tubic, Suzie Burke, Susan Fuller, Pete Hanning, Rodman Miller, James Wagner, Ryan Reiter, Kathy Peterson, Christy Arrington, Paul Doak, Jennifer Beus

**Staff:** Jessica Vets, Caroline Sherman

**Guest:** Kirby Laney, Jeanne Muir

The meeting was called to order at **8:02** AM by Phil Megenhardt

**Motion** to approve the July Board Meeting Minutes was delayed until next meeting.

**Guest Speaker: Jeanne Muir, Ship Canal Water Quality Project/Tunnel (see handout)**

- Lots of sewage overflows into the Sound
- Ballard, Queen Anne and Fremont are the main contributors
- Tunnel from Ballard/Yankee Diner site, Shilshole at 36<sup>th</sup> & Leary
  - Dumps excess rainwater into this tunnel, where it will be held for later pumping to sewage station. Basically a tunnel shaped tank
  - Suzie wants a light at 1<sup>st</sup> NW and 36<sup>th</sup>
  - Keep on 36<sup>th</sup> NW right of way
  - 9-month construction period
  - There will be odor control
  - Joint King County Project
  - Not effecting rates beyond current budget
  - Tunnel spoils to be barged out at the Yankee Diner site which will reduce truck traffic.

**CATEGORY REPORTS**

- **Membership Development / Member Services**
  - **Monthly Programs / Sponsorships** – Victoria Odell
    - **September meeting needs your help to get the word out**
  - **Membership Dashboard** – on back
    - **Membership Drive** – update – October Meeting & other strategy (see Draft Handout)
      - Centers around Benefit Breakfast
  - **Award ideas** –
    - **Kirby: Geocaching's last block party**—it was incredible for walking the neighborhood. Participants are involved a week before spending money, shopping and eating! Person said off the record that they weren't making any money on it.
    - **Ballroom Pizza** for feeding Ducks & Dogs
- **Community Relations**
  - **Fundraising Breakfast / Lunch** – B F Day School Auction – planning committee needs people – might need help, since only being planned by Ole Carlson
  - **Fremont Neighborhood Council** – James – short report
  - **Fremont Arts Council** – Rodman Miller/ Marko Tubic
    - Luminaria coming up
    - Mac lead the meeting & did a good presentation on how the board is becoming

more professional

- Ricky-Gene has been talking about Troll-a-ween event
- Tableau gives their parking lot to keep vendor parking off the street. Want to support Arts Council, but comes down to deliverables—what they would get for providing support? Ongoing conversation, so something to consider.

- **Management & Operations**

- **Board Contact sheet – updated sheet to be emailed**
- **Executive Committee** – Phil Megenhardt
- **Finance Dashboard** – Paul Doak
  - Holiday Campaign—what funds can we allocate sooner to help make this run smoothly? It's a popular event. Need to get the message out.
  - Anticipating \$3k available for Fremont Chamber grants in October. Get application in by first part of October 16<sup>th</sup>. Reviewed on 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - QuickBooks online—is reducing Jessica's time immensely! Thanks to Kathy/Homestreet for all their help!
  - QB has a merchant account update that is working really smoothly which is reducing reconciliation time. Even better investment than originally thought!
  - Financial reports review—doing OK for now, but we have big events coming up, so we can't stop being vigilant about expenses.
  - Many thanks to Paul Doak for his leadership.
  - ArtsFund: good—we are getting money coming in, but we are below target. However, it's the first year, so we are learning how it will work.
- Christy leaving the board to travel and then relocate. She did not anticipate working for just a few months, but she's really enjoyed working with everyone on the board.

- **Marketing & Major Events**

- **Marketing Committee** – Ken Saunderson
- Updates: Walks—engage customers & support local businesses. Members Only!
  - Intoxicating Walk—Pot shop, etc., Shopping Walk, Vintage Classic Fremont, Om Tour—health related venues, etc.
  - Needs ideas and support! What about Chase Bank? Not a member. Travis at Bank of America has rejoined with his own money!! Give him a high-five, if you see him!
  - Consider a letter to banks explaining why we support local member banks. Consider a guest column in Friday Blast.
- **Major & Community Events** – Marko Tubic, Chair
  - **City of Seattle Event Fees, update on progress of ASSET – Phil / Marko**
    - Flat fee structure in place for ~20 years is now moving to a cost recover/pay for use system. Not that bad on the surface, but comes down to cost recovery for Safety: cops. Anything off their beat, the cops get time and half. We consider this NOT FAIR—we shouldn't have to pay for the City's mismanagement of time and half. Money doesn't go to the cops, it goes to the General Fund.
    - This proposal will “kill the goose that lays the golden egg.”
    - 3 Event Types: Parades, Commercial/Gated event, City-wide events
      - Fremont Fair cost will go up by ~\$7k. This is our usual profit, which will mean running it for nothing.
      - U-District Street Fair cost will go up by ~\$8-10k
    - \$200 beer garden inspection
    - Considering 3rd category: Community event

- Would love to get this punted to next year
- Make an amendment to make a Community price tier that would allow Fremont Fair avoid \$30k fee.
- Kirkland moved to this system, and it boils down to us buying the toilet paper. ...
- New City fees will lead to a 600% tax increase!
- Vendors are being charged by the number of markets they attend, which will discourage them.
- Push City Council to hear us! Talk to your reps!
- Fremont Oktoberfest – Phil Megenhardt
  - Moving forward, printing coasters and posters, etc. All on track and on time.
  - Changes:
    - Sunday turned into Family Day which allowed us to change marketing
    - Run Start will start at Fremont Oktoberfest, onto properties/N Lake Way, Gasworks Park, Pacific, 34<sup>th</sup> onto Burke Gilman Trail and back the normal way. This gets us off the arterial and reduces fees. Tableau is letting us do this.
    - Kids Day, Friday Night German games, moving bucks and beer garden to peninsula
    - **Key is Saturday Night.** Bring your friends and be there from 7-11pm, so the beer can be served efficiently and make happy people.
- 2016 Planning Fremont Fair / Hopscotch - Phil Megenhardt
  - “Got to have it to give it”. Not going to be able to come up with the second half of the \$3k because of the way the beer gardens worked out—down by half.
  - Fremont Chamber has been paid in full.
  - Remaining \$3,500 is pending based on completion of the books on this project. Intention is to honor it.
  - All non-profits got their money, so it is on the Chamber.
  - Lots of events/competition for people, so overall reduction in numbers.
- **Advocacy**
  - **Governmental Issues** – Suzie Burke / Susan Fuller
    - District City Council Race in this District:
      - District 6: Mike O’Brien vs Catherine Weatbrook. We need someone supportive of our needs, and it’s not Mike O’Brien. O’Brien is unlikely to support issues important to us.
      - District 4: Rob Johnson vs Michael Maddox. Johnson, the likely winner is all about Transportation/bikes/transit. Needs to be educated about other issues: North Precinct; trash cleanup; ...
      - Transportation Levy, 3 times as much as old one. Covers nothing about congestion relief. Pushing this through, because new Council would come up with an entirely different approach with deliverables. Washington Policy Center came out with scathing report on Bridging the Gap. New levy has no oversight.
    - **Safety & Transportation Committee** – Pete Hanning
      - Past member, hearing impaired/stroke victim has been hit several times by bicycles on Fremont Bridge is advocating for more controls on the Bridge—we should support them.

- Come up with points about this: What we see, and what we would like to see.
- Fix crosswalk light timing at 34<sup>th</sup> & Fremont Ave. Ask SDOT to come and check it out.

**Announcements:**

- **Meetings:**

- September 16: next general meeting
- October 19: Benefits Meeting
- Get people to these meetings!!

- **Ryan:**

- **Taco Libre Truck Showdown** moving from Chinatown to here on Sundays. Needs fencing. Needs more discussion. Donating \$10k. **Could be a fundraiser for the Chamber.**

- **Paul Doak:** Consider adding Accounting Services provided by Nest Egg to website. If click-throughs yield new clients, Chamber will get \$200.

- **Raffle tickets** for Superbowl in Santa Clara—see Suzie

**Adjourn**

Adjourned at **9:19** am by Jessica Vets.  
Minutes submitted by **Caroline Sherman**