

**Fremont Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting  
September 30, 2015  
Saturn Building, #310**

**Attending:** Phil Megenhardt, Suzie Burke, Susan Fuller, Pete Hanning, Rodman Miller, Kathy Peterson, Paul Doak, Jennifer Beus, Kerston Swartz, Victoria Odell, Ken Saunderson, Sean Erhardt, Kathy Moeller

**Staff:** Jessica Vets

**Guest:** Kirby Laney

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 am by **Phil Megenhardt**.

**Phil** read the mission of the Fremont Chamber of Commerce. Motion to approve July and August meeting minutes was postponed – minutes will be approved by email.

**OFFICE MOVE**

- The FCC office is moving to Ken's office (309 N 36<sup>th</sup> St, Ste 200) on Oct. 27.
- The lease is currently under review by the board.
- Brown Paper Tickets may have a conference room the chamber could use for meetings.
- Purging is happening – **Suzie** will take items for donation to the Goodwill.

**CATEGORY REPORTS**

- **Membership Development / Member Services**
  - **Monthly Programs / Sponsorships – Victoria Odell**
    - FCC Breakfast Benefits – 10/21 GSBA event
    - All Chambers Afterhours – 10/13 at MOHAI
    - Health and Wellness Meetup – 10/15 at Fremont Health Club
- **Membership Dashboard**
  - Member drive underway for month of October
  - Lydia is on board and already producing. First, she's verifying contact information and updating the database. During her clarification calls, she's pitching membership.
  - Jessica is working on lapsed or lapsing members, using the Breakfast Benefits event as a way to invite businesses to join the chamber.
  - Decals and brochures are being printed now
  - **Pete:** breakdown potential member businesses into type of industry (tech/health/retail/etc.)
  - **Suzie:** approach other business associations and pitch our chamber
  - All: which businesses not located in Fremont should be chamber members?
    - **Phil:** vendors at Fremont events
    - **Kirby:** vendors at Fremont market
    - **Pete:** beverage and food distributors serving Fremont restaurants
    - **Jessica:** needs lists of these businesses and she will approach
    - **Phil:** each board member should talk with Jessica for 15 minutes about recruitment
- **Award Ideas**
  - **Suzie:** Dunn Lumber for speaking up at car camping meeting
  - **Ken:** Hallow's Church for sending 12 volunteers to wiffle ball
  - **Ken:** Phil M. for his work on the special events/city council efforts
  - **Ken:** Suzie for all that she does during the year

- **Community Relations**
  - **Fundraising Breakfast / Lunch**
    - Saturday, Oct. 24 is the BF Day auction at Hale's Ales. It is important to support BF Day as their funding is being pulled to compensate for the recent teachers' strike and other funding issues. BF Day has a \$35,000 goal for the auction. Suzie has two tables at the event. Can FCC match the raise the paddle dollar amount?
    - **Jessica** reminded the group that FCC was already going to donate \$1,000 to BF Day – perhaps this could be done as a match to the raise the paddle?
    - Other events coming up are Puget Sound Keeper Alliance and Center for Wooden Boats.
  - **Fremont Neighborhood Council – Kirby Laney**
    - The council is hosting a land use 101 forum for residents to learn how to participate in the public comment process.
  - **Fremont Arts Council – Rodman Miller / Marko Tubic**
    - The Luminata Parade was a big success. Attendance was high.
    - Troll-o-ween will occur on Oct. 31 at 7pm at the Troll along with the Haunt and Troll-a-gogo with a beer garden, seems that multiple organizers are involved.
    - Discussion of beer garden safety and clean up from the Fremont Arts Council.
- **Management & Operations**
  - **Executive Committee – Phil Megenhardt**
    - **Phil:** Board elections are coming up in October and November. Please think about possible recruits.
  - **Finance Dashboard – Paul Doak**
    - FCC is doing great over last year. Our expenses are down.
    - Grants expenses are \$3,000 a year; applications are due 10/16 and will be reviewed on 10/19 (History House and BF Day will be applying).
    - **Phil:** our decision at the retreat was to get our house in order, and then we'll increase the grant amount again. We should be proud that we're staying within our budget.
    - QuickBooks online is a work in progress. Please limit requests to Jessica until we get this new system organized.
- **Marketing & Major Events**
  - **Wiffleball – Ken Saunderson**
    - **Ken:** Wiffleball was a lot of fun – we raised \$1,000 with 11 teams participating. We will need to consider more volunteer recruitment if we would like to continue this program.
    - **Phil:** add wiffleball to our board retreat agenda in January.
    - **Ken:** we will brainstorm other ideas in October and bring back to board.
  - **Walks – Jessica Vets**
    - **Jessica:** the Intoxicating Tour is live on the website. A series of other walks will be developed and can be used as a membership benefit.
  - **Holiday Shopping Guide – Jessica Vets**
    - October 8 is next planning meeting.
    - Retailers are interested in taking over holiday coordination in Fremont.
    - There is an available neighborhood grant for Shop Local.
    - We have \$500 in budget to support holidays in Fremont.
    - **Kathy:** would like to do a trunk show in the lobby of her business.
    - We need to ask businesses to keep us up to date on their holiday plans so that we can support and market for them.
  - **Walking Guide – Jessica Vets**

- On track – John and Nancy have data and will work with Lydia on recruiting new members.
- **Side conversation about social media**
  - **Jennifer:** we should consider having a social media specialist. We will discuss at board retreat in January.
  - **Jessica:** we have a very mobile friendly website. Hotel concierge desks like to have brochure/something tangible to give to guests.
- **Major Community Events**
  - Special events chair needed for the board.
  - Fremont Oktoberfest – **Phil Megenhardt**
    - Second highest attended year in history
    - 17,315 paid attendees, Revenue: \$47, 616.25
    - Sunday Family Day was success, New 5K course worked great.
    - See handout for details.
- **Governmental Advocacy**
- **Susan Fuller** discussed SEC Event fees – we should qualify a community event and get the numbers on policy for non community events, **Phil** gave background on discussion explaining the process from the City and how we are now waiting to work with the SEC to determine these numbers.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am.

Minutes submitted by **Kerston Swartz and Jessica Vets**