

**Fremont Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting
November 18, 2014
History House of Greater Seattle**

Attending: Pete Hanning, Paul Nordstrand, Suzie Burke, Sean Erhardt, Raymond Glandon, Rodman Miller, Susan Fuller, Jessica Vets, Ryan Reiter

Guests: Kirby Lindsay, Jennifer Beus--PCC Natural Markets

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

Introduction by Phil

Motion to approve the September Board Meeting Minutes made by **Pete Hanning**, seconded by **Paul Nordstrand** and were **APPROVED**.

Executive Director's Report:

- Membership update. Membership is down this year, especially in the retail sector.
- Walking Guide is down 10 listing, and with membership down about 13 this is a couple thousand in revenue. – Kirby pointed out that we are getting a mix of new and renewals that are across sectors.

Member Drive Training

- Membership Drive: Discussion on reach, very little has been done. Phil made a plea to go out and talk with people – it is easy, right outside your door and grab people!
- Phil does not want to give people the out; we need each Board member to go get 4 people by the end of the year. Work on this actively now! Create the time.
- Sean wants to get the pressure year round so that the Board to gets new habits.
- Jessica mentioned that a list of non-members should be coming out to the Board more regularly – every month with Board reminder, should be a list.
- Jennifer would like to hear people's pitch since she is new – Phil pointed out that the Fremont Chamber does the work that no one sees. Discussion of examples of what to say, the story of the Fremont Chamber and why to join. 41¢ a day to be a member.

Executive Committee: Pete

Phil – maintain membership, have not done, maintain min reserve have not done that, but budget is being worked on now. Budget committee meeting met and Phil and Jessica. Focus on the budget – focus on our selves first. We are looking at all aspects of spending, maintaining our grant process is important and how money is allocated is very important. Hired a bookkeeper, Nicole is being trained and Jessica will continue to make a solid foundation for books.

FAC meetings are progressing. Kirby mentioned that the FAC has liked the FCC support.

Phil continued to review the Board goals.

Presentation by Adrian about the beginnings of a project to put a donation collection box at the Rocket – timing of this is good, since we need about \$1500 to clean up the Hysterical Markers.

Phil made a motion to give money to project. **Suzie** seconded the motion was **Approved**. Rodman made the point that we should make it secure, we might look to put a debit card swipe or online donation... look into options.

Board Retreat – Jessica sent a Save the Date reminder out. Red Door for lunch and then move to Saturn Building, Phil will put together the agenda. There will be a few more action items, less reporting.

Finance Committee: Jessica

Jessica sent around draft 2015 calendar year budget with recommendation to have full Board review. Phil recommended that Riq, Phil and another to advance this budget, Phil proposed that we do an online vote, but with some discussion. Suzie said that we can do this at the retreat, agreed. Phil asked that questions, comments and concerns
Credit Card processing implemented in Dec.

Membership:

Keep going on recruiting

Marketing:

Friday Blast will be taking a hiatus, to get a redesign. Stopping the cycle of the Blast and reviewing the publication, clean the email data and reformat the December 19 last Holiday Blast, back on Jan 9th in it's redesigned form. During the Holiday we will still be putting out some Holiday pings.

Programs:

Shameless at the Fremont Foundry tomorrow, with Roxy's Diner breakfast.

Holiday Party – need to invite people. Discussion on Awards for the year.

Awards Ideas: Jim Daly: Asko, Bertha: Ralph and Sarah Weathers, Patches Pal: Brooks, Hammering Man: Bastyr, Chamber pot of commerce: Tamera, Ballroom, Local Hero: Tableau, Neal and Team, Certificates: 1. Fremont Bridge Project, 2. Seattle Fire & Police for Asko Fire, 3. Jon & Linda for continuing conversation with FAC, 4. Hallow Church for volunteering, 5. Solstice Concert, 6. Kirby Fremocentrist & Homestreet Bank for Fireside chats.

Retail Committee:

Update on Holidays, using AdWords and Facebook Ads for first time this year, other mix much the same as the past

Major Events:

Fremont Fair is going very well. Spoke with Burke Building rep all seems good for 2015. **Phil** to meet with Art FX and City Sound people, that was helpful for redirecting sound at the concert. Suzie asks that Phil touches base with Asko to ensure that fire remediation process can continue. Pete asked about new events, Phil mentioned a large slip and slide, and Phil will follow FCC process. Hopscotch is April 2&3 and that is on track.

Fremont Oktoberfest kids time, this was the first time that a beer garden was open to kids in the City. Worked well with Rotary doing bouncy houses. By 3pm all the kids were home, all kids were young, no teens.

Ryan proposing a swath of events – Mobile Food Rodeo not back in Fremont this year. But will be doing Street Food Festival, Fremont Studios and Fremont Foundry, both supportive still waiting on Mark Grey. This would be another fundraiser for the FCC, this would be on Canal and N 34th St. Still needs to vet details with Jessica and others. Revel is interested in putting on their own element in their parking lot. This event would be much more than a food truck event. Next Steps are to put together proposal, and will fill out event check list.

Kirby – Fremont Festivus, Friday night, starting with Lenin Lighting, this could be very well attended this year!! Fremont Philharmonic. 6p – 9p a number of businesses that all are participating with bazaars, discounts, etc. Next year this will be a three-day event, Friday, Lenin, Saturday carolers and maybe battle of the bands at American Music, Sat night Rocket lighting, Sunday focus on Sunday Market – focus on fun and shop! Short events through the weekend, with shopping time in between.

Ryan – Mentioned starting up a miracle on N34th St. at the Fremont Sunday Market and this will happen through December on Sunday.

Governmental Committee:

Discussion on Health Department permit fee increases and how this will affect both brick and mortar businesses and events. **Suzie** recommends that we send Larry Phillips a letter objecting to this – Jessica to write letter and Suzie to review and Phil – needs to be done quickly.

After Fremont Bridge, Aurora Bridge will get painted it will take 2 years to paint.

Suzie also mentioned “Linkage” development fees to go towards affordable housing. This is going to send Developers to Bellevue and elsewhere. Seems like this will be on every construction project. Fremont has had positive growth in affordable housing units, but this is not the same downtown. This is going to be a big issue. **Susan Fuller** followed up, Sally Clark and Mike O’Brien they are getting push back on this Linkage fee, but it’s really just a mess.

Technology Committee:

We are over 1000 downloads, next Training is December 11.

Community Groups:

Fremont Arts Council – they have a float storage space, they will be meeting in December 20, meeting at float location – on Fremocentrist site at FAC page

Adjourned at 9:48 am.

Minutes submitted by **Jessica Vets**