



**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 29, 2020**  
**Teleconference via BlueJeans**

**Attending:** Brandi Gaines, Paul Robinson, Phil Megenhardt, Carrie Bauer, Suzie Burke, Sarah Kennedy, Ken Saunderson, Michael Wanaka, Sean Erhardt, Jessi Brookman, Nate Mouttet

**Staff:** Whitney Moore, Caroline Sherman

**Guests:** Sam O'Brien, KeyBank

**Call to Order – Brandi**

The meeting was called to order at 8:38AM by Brandi.

- A. Introductions
- B. Mission Statement was read out loud.
- C. President's Remarks: Vote! August 4<sup>th</sup> is the deadline. No stamp necessary or use one of the drop boxes available throughout the city.

**Approval of June Minutes:** Suzie moved to approve. Carrie seconded. A vote was held and the June minutes were APPROVED.

**Financial Report – Phil**

- A. June Highlights/ 2020 Budget Scenarios
  - a. We're in OK shape. Seattle Special Events has postponed permits until November 1<sup>st</sup>. This means Oktoberfest is cancelled for 2020. Budgeting \$2 income for the next 5 months. Keeping expenses low. This will give us, with our reserves a net of about \$16k at the end of the year. We will start heating up the membership renewal piece in the next quarter. Having reserves of \$16k at the beginning of the year is not great, but we're not out of business. We need to think about our relevancy. We do have a grant coming in at \$5k and we're waiting to hear on a grant of \$25k. We've done a really good job on projections. We have to work on our revenue streams.
  - b. Brandi: For Grant money, we have to track expenses very carefully. Use it or lose it.

**Open Business from Last Meeting**

- A. FC Relief Grant Fund Status – Brandi
  - a. Launching next week. Received \$25,000 from Tableau. Brandi spoke with Neal Myrick who runs the Tableau Foundation and he was able to find the funds. Tableau founded in Fremont run out of Fremont. They bought \$5k gift certificates of restaurants in their building.

- b. Google not coming back until July 2021. Adobe Jan 2021. A big blow to the community. Brandi will work on Adobe to donate more.
  - c. Sarah: flag these businesses for Awards.
  - d. Relief Fund to launch on Monday, August 4.
- B. King Count Grants Status – Caroline
- a. Applied to two King County grants for Chambers, one for \$5k and one for \$25k. Got the \$5k; waiting to hear about the \$25k. Leo Griffin, formerly of King County and Brandi both helped tremendously.
- C. Re-opening Fremont, Grand Openings/Ribbon Cuttings
- a. No grand openings or ribbon cuttings happening anytime soon.
  - b. The opening and closing of Phases of Reopening is making it very difficult for all businesses.
- D. Fremont Sunday Market
- a. The Ballard Farmers Market is open and working well. The City blames the Governor for not understanding that the Fremont Sunday Market is not an event, but a market.
  - b. We have written a letter in support of the Fremont Sunday Market. We can't understand why the Public Health Board won't budge. Ryan Reiter is looking at using the old Clear Cut Plastics place on 36<sup>th</sup> next to High Dive. So, they'll try it as an indoor retail space with sidewalk sales, too. Looking at \$32k fundraising. The best we can do is help them with \$1.5k grant and promote their fundraising efforts.
  - c. Sarah could put a donation box/station for them.
  - d. Suzie: Until that Fremont Sunday Market reopens, Fremont is not open. It's not helping us.
  - e. Ken: Is the Fremont Sunday Market is required to have a street permit?
  - f. Suzie: They have the street permit, but they are not being allowed to use it.
  - g. Sarah: Could they use the alley behind the Vintage Mall?
  - h. No, because they don't have the special use permit.
  - i. Phil: It's not going to happen. Let's start working on what can happen.
  - j. Suzie: Very worried that this will shut Fremont down completely and forever.
  - k. Phil: We need to really start promoting our cafes and businesses that have street permits.
  - l. Brandi: sidewalk sales, etc.
  - m. Phil: Brick & mortars
  - n. Michael: Sidewalk sales are only to bring customers inside. Putting things outside says we're open.
  - o. Jessi: Streeterly in Issaquah. Close streets and restaurants spilling outside, which helps the retail as well.
  - p. Brandi: Ballard is doing something similar, though not closing streets. Businesses can get barriers to protect a wider sidewalk.
  - q. Michael: don't close off parking—that kills retail.
  - r. Suzie: We can't close off streets, because we have a flow problem, except in front of El Camino. Each of these businesses has a pretty good idea of what they need to do, so we need to encourage them to do it.

- s. Suzie/Sarah: space behind Vintage Mall is a load/unload area, but there is a platform back there that could be used. We should share this with Fremont Sunday Market.

### **Office Reports—see handouts**

- A. Membership & Office Management – Caroline
  - a. See report and associated attachments
- B. Marketing & Membership – Whitney
  - a. See report and Google analytics
  - b. How to support our businesses with what’s happening with diversity?
  - c. Hysterical Markers adopted by four more businesses in exchange for a social media post.
  - d. Working on graphics
  - e. Google Analytics—see attached. Seeing where our traffic is coming from. Lenin page was the most visited last month!
  - f. Brandi: Please send links to all social media accounts.
- C. Programs – Whitney
  - a. Coffee with Councilmember. Casual; have some great questions, low key. Working on subsequent programs is hard. Kudos to Ken!
  - b. Upcoming activities. Moving tomorrow, Event Friday, distributing WG, Relief Fund promotion.
  - c. Brandi attended Town Hall this week. Suggests our Coffee with Councilmember will be a good one.
  - d. Suzie: Where to find minutes from these Town Hall meetings? Brandi will research.

### **Announcements and New Business—Brandi**

- A. Ask KC to locally source Safe Start Kit supplies (masks & sanitizer)! -- Caroline
- B. Tableau Banner—is there a better place to hang it? – Caroline
  - a. No. It’s promoting businesses in that building, so no.
- C. Diversity Statement & Code of Ethics – Caroline
  - a. Drafts were presented to the board. The Exec Board will review.
- D. EIDL Grants for Small Businesses—accepting new applications.
- E. Lenin Statue & BLM
  - a. Thanks to Graffiti Busters for the cleanup. Suzie will own this from now on.
- F. King County Safe Start Kits Mask Distribution – Caroline
  - a. Brandi collected and distributed to 3 businesses to act as distribution points for the community: HomeStreet, Fremont Mischief and Show Pony
- G. FC Office Packing Up & Closing – Caroline
  - a. Working on this tomorrow.
- H. Calendar of Awesomeness Ideas from July – what and why
  - a. Safe Start Kit Distribution
  - b. Relief Fund
  - c. Seattle Pacific University students begin classes on Sept 14 (both remotely and in-person).
- I. Award Ideas from July – who and why

- a. Leo Griffin for his inestimable help with writing two grants to King County for a total of \$29,999.
  - b. The Big Center of the Universe Relief Fund donors.
  - c. Suzie: Carrie gets an award for doing so well by our kids and getting them online and learning. She's carrying a big piece of the load.
  - d. Suzie nominates Boys & Girls Club for an award.
- J. Phil: Showed Fremont Oktoberfest video cancellation announcement. Will be posted.
- K. Nate: Seattle Pacific University students begin classes on Sept 14 (both remotely and in-person).
- a. Suzie: Students have been there the whole time, staggered in dorms. Scholarship is alive helping students. 10 people get full scholarships for fall session.
- L. Suzie: Bowman labs creating new sanitization processes for Boeing. Big push of folks out into retirement or unemployment but well-funded. It will be interesting to see what these folks do over the next 5 years. Hope these folks land in Fremont!
- M. Whitney: Thank you to Carrie for adopting the Hysterical Marker near B. F. Day during this meeting! Suzie will try and get Nola to adopt the one by the old Solsticio. We have now met our goal of 100% of Hysterical Markers being adopted!
- N. Carrie: It's not easy, but we're getting better at it. Making repeated calls to families to get the kids online. Starting virtually. Handing out kits for kindergartners and more computers to families. Haven't lost too many kids. Will be about 420 kids strong. Also working on spacing of tables in anticipation of coming back with social distancing. Remodeled the Boys and Girls Club with space in there. We can have all the kids, if they go 2 days/week each.
- O. Phil: Serving on a couple of committees for reopening events. Have written a proposal to Governor for opening events. Joined with other hospitality groups. They've looked at it. They've separated indoor vs outdoor events with stricter controls for indoor events. He's on 2-3 committees to be ready when allowed to open. Coalition sending letter to City Council about defunding police. If you take overtime away then any special event that relies on police presence, then it would lose police presence. 150 of us sending letter to City Council reminding them that our community events are policed by police paid out of overtime funds.
- P. Suzie: payment details over "overpaid" police and fire fighters includes their pension funds. Everyone that they listed had already retired. Press is not doing a good job covering defunding the police. Phil depends on the Guild for police, and it's highly regulated.
- Q. Caroline: Patti at Mischief pointed out that the KC Safe Start kits do not include local hand sanitizer. Could we write a letter to King County about this? Yes!
- a. Suzie: it's the alcohol and the rubbing that works. Extras are aloe and scents.
- R. Jessi: Just re-opened their hot bar with hand sanitizer and compostable gloves available. Things are looking up on that score. It's a big business for them.
- S. Sean: Gym has 5 members at a time as a limit. Staffing from 12 hours/day 6 on weekends. Reservation online/app. Can't turn back the building, so charging \$10/visit. This is more than folks pay regularly. It's not good, but we're active and open. It fills up during peak times, but not a huge demand. Working OK. Hopefully, max capacity will be allowed soon based on square footage. Limited to 5 people regardless of size!
- T. Sam: KeyBank is doing really well. Actually, a new broadcast thing on TV that says open doors. Show that we are open. Chase is still closed across the street. KeyBank has been open for several months.

- U. Paul: HomeStreet's been open through it all. Did lots of the PPPs. Possibly doing another round. Round #3. If it passes through Congress, it will be available to businesses that received it before and minority owned businesses. One person at a time with a mask on!
- V. Ken: Doing well. Business is OK, health is good. One client NSIA & Eugene Wasserman interested in pulling together North Seattle maritime interests along the ship canal, so there is a web page about the Seattle Fishing Fleet. Doug Dixon at Pacific Fisherman Shipyard releasing new book on 150 years in business. Continuing to tell the great story of the Seattle Maritime Industry.
  - a. Suzie: Pacific Fisherman is a coop of fishing families. 100-year-old businesses are still down there.
- W. Other

**Adjourn—Brandi**

Meeting ended at 10:00am.

Minutes submitted by Caroline Sherman