



Board Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2020
Teleconference via BlueJeans

Attending:

Brandi Gaines, Paul Robinson, Amina Leighton, Phil Megenhardt, Carrie Bauer, Suzie Burke, Sean Erhardt, Jessi Brookman.

Staff: Whitney Moore

Guests: Jon Hegeman

Call to Order – Brandi

The meeting was called to order at 8:36AM by Brandi.

- A. Introductions—skipped.
- B. Mission Statement was read out loud.
- C. President’s Message: Self-care, take care of yourselves, take care of each other.

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

Financial Report – Phil

- A. July Highlights/ 2020 Budget Scenarios
- B. We are not making our budget numbers: less revenue than expenses. Any time that Whitney and Caroline spend on grant initiatives—should be applied to the grant. We’ll end the year with some money in the bank. We are not going to sell the Walking Guide this year. The budget situation is “normal” and not currently the worst-case scenario.

Open Business from Last Meeting

- A. FC Relief Grant Fund Status—Brandi
 - a. We received both King County grants we applied for, totaling \$29,999. These grants need to be spent by the end of the year. In reference to encouraging diversity in Fremont, Suzie wanted it noted that the biggest thing the Chamber does is allow anyone to start a business in Fremont. Wants to ensure we talk about our high-percentage women-owned businesses when we talk about our neighborhood’s diversity.
 - b. We’ve awarded the first four Center of the Universe Relief Fund grants to Alabastro Photography, Juniper Flowers, Les Amis, Show Pony. We should start selecting the grant awardees for the next week and coordinate w/ Stephen so that he can send out the relief checks ASAP.
- B. Fremont Sunday Market—Brandi

- a. One barrier to opening the Market: SDOT wants the bike path to stay open even though it's previously been blocked off for the FSM each Sunday. They are looking at a September 6th opening at half capacity. Not going to be opening a retail space in Clear Cut Plastics building as they previously had intended. Will be applying for the Relief Fund to pay for the reopening advertising campaigns. This is their 30th year of operating the Market and need all the advertising support we can give.
 - b. Jon Hegeman will talk to Kelly Lyles to coordinate the Art Cars potentially being at the opening of the FSM. Food Trucks are not part of the plan to reopen the market.
- C. Fremont Events Update-Phil
- a. Phil is looking ahead at Fremont Events for November & December. Part of the King County grant the Chamber was awarded will go to marketing Oktoberfest in September (will extend this Oktoberfest a month and a half). Bold Hat is meeting with Street Scramble people to put together a "Find a Mini Mug" self-guided tour. Prizes to be announced later. Bold Hat is planning out the holiday campaign to market Fremont for holiday shopping then thinking ahead about 2021 Fremont Fair.
- D. Diversity Statement & Code of Ethics – Caroline
- a. Suzie: It is long but there was nothing outlandish in it.
 - b. Brandi will look at it with a legal lens and follow up with us on signing off on it.

Office Reports—see handouts

- A. Membership & Office Management – Caroline
- a. See report. Read aloud by Whitney in Caroline's absence. No comments.
 - i. Carrie thanked us for donating our office supplies to BF Day while cleaning out the office.
- B. Marketing & Membership – Whitney
- a. See report. Do206, Seattle Restaurant Week—these could both come out of the grant and we should move forward with participating.
 - b. Quotes for Good, great opportunity for partnership with Jeff Kalvelage State Farm.
 - c. Look into how many followers are on Fremocentrist.com to see if there's an opportunity for us to work with Kirby Laney to promote Fremont.
 - d. BF Day event: Days of Caring is coming up--how can the Chamber support this?
- C. Programs – Whitney
- a. See report. No comments/feedback.

Announcements and New Business—Brandi

- A. What to add to the Calendar of Awesomeness? No additions.
- B. Award Ideas from August – who and why
- a. Fremont Sunday Market-acknowledge them for everything they've done to bring back the market and bring foot traffic back to Fremont.
 - b. Jeff Kalvelage State Farm for offering to partner on Quotes for Good and bring more money in for the Chamber Relief Fund
 - c. Tableau: Award them for their \$25k donation to the Relief Fund and buying \$5k of gift cards at local Fremont businesses. For being a conscious partner in Fremont.
 - d. Recognize all of the Founding Donors for the Relief Fund

- e. Kelly Lyles of the Art Cars for showing on Saturday in Fremont and bringing foot traffic here.
 - f. Fremont Baptist Church for being the only church in Fremont [that's open?].
- C. Other--Updates from everyone on the call:
- **Sean from Anytime Fitness:** Update on Phase II and how it's impacting Anytime.
 - **Jessi from PCC:** shop lifting, vandalism, cars being broken into (street level and parking garage). They call the police for each incident, but no one ever shows up.
 - **Paul from HomeStreet:** Things are slow. The majority of their business is commercial. Mortgages are hot. Could have a complete turnover of staff in the next month.
 - **Brandi:** Adobe's remodel has not been completed. Adobe isn't returning to the office until 2021.
 - **Suzie:** Tenants are leaving Fremont and still owing money. Small businesses (1/3 of our economy) are leaving and not able to reopen. She feels that if businesses aren't able to reopen in the next one month that they will never be able to reopen. Support your small businesses!

Adjourn—Brandi

Meeting ended at 9:59am.