



Annual Board Meeting Minutes  
December 6, 2022  
Dragster

**Attendance:**

**Members:** Alan Alabastro, Sooz Appel, Al Bruce, Suzie Burke, Robert Coburn, Paige Crandall, Bill Crossman, Elizabeth Emerick, Brandi Gaines, Jon Hegeman, Jeff Kalvelage, Amina Kapusuzoglu, Mychal Mitchell, Steve Mitchell, Jean Louise Paquin Allen, Ryan Reiter Hegeman, Paul Robinson, Hiram Sachs, Jessica Vets

**Guests:** Riq Molina, Jenna Pope

**Staff:** Pete Hanning, Caroline Sherman

**Call to Order – Brandi**

The meeting was called to order at 5:47pm.

**A. Mission Statement**

The Fremont Chamber of Commerce strengthens the business climate and improves the quality of life in the Fremont community.

**B. President's Year-End Remarks**

Brandi thanked Dragster and celebrated a year of reopening, revitalizing, and enjoy all that we have:

Gratitude for the successful Fremont Fair, Solstice Parade, Art Cars and Oktoberfest.

Programs: Our Public Safety meeting with Assistant Chief of Police Tom Mahaffey. It was great to have his personal and professional comments on what is happening. Also, what to do if you need help. We are doing another Public Safety meeting early next year.

Advocacy: Route 40 Modal Transit proposal that will take a lane on both sides of 36<sup>th</sup>. Working really closely with Sooz on Westlake, Ballard Alliance, NSIA, hearing concerns from everyone. Coming up with campaign with coalition to publicize and fight back.

NERF Grant: Art refurbishment. Thanks to Leo Griffin & Troll's Knoll. Bridge Mural, N 40<sup>th</sup> St staircase. New Art: Troll's Knoll art, moss turtle hokura, new trees, etc. Painted the Rocket.

Alan Alabastro doing work on public art: cataloging all of it and putting it all on Google Maps with photos & links. Then a fremont public art map linked to our website.

Decorated the Rocket. Phil & Brandi spent many hours out there. Folks don't know about it. Tell your friends! Light up Fremont! Get Fremont lit!

Inherited Trick or Treat. Kirby had done it so graciously in the past. We are getting our feet wet and learning lessons. Got lots of kids & adults in costume. It's the safest way! Leads to folks eating here & going on to Trolloween.

Staffing: Hired new ED! Pete Hanning! He's been instrumental in increasing membership and board membership.

## **Elections**

### **A. Introduction of Slate of Board Candidates – Pete**

Returning board members:

- Suzie Burke, Fremont Dock, founder & major friend of Fremont.
- Sean Erhardt, Anytime Fitness (not able to be here tonight, as he is working.)
- Paul Robinson, HomeStreet. Current VP and provider of small storage for the Chamber

Four new board members coming in. When Pete came in in May, his top priority: new board members!

- Jessica Vets, Edward Jones representing Fremont South! (Along with Pelington Properties, etc.) She was ED in the past. Will bring experience and moxy.
- Eva Otto, Real Estate agency in upper Fremont. Has fabulous business and has artistic window displays. Valued member!
- Two others representing hospitality: Billy Beckett, Red Star Taco Bar and Jayson Cottam, The George & Dragon, considered the best soccer bar in the country! Billy got started bar tending at the Ballroom. What we're doing when we attend these retail members is supporting them for the next decade.

### **B. Vote for Slate of Board Candidates – Brandi**

- Suzie Burke moved to approve the full slate of candidates.
- Sooz Appel seconded.
- All in favor. No abstentions.
- Full slate of board members APPROVED!

Suzie: if you are interested in being on the board, let us know! The board works the Chamber. Chamber program meetings are informational, etc.

Brandi: Feel free to attend our board meetings. Email us. We read your emails and are here for you. Later at the end of our meeting, we'll do a ribbon cutting for Dragster.

## **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 6:07pm. Dragster ribbon cutting and photos followed. The evening ended drinks, dinner and a fantastic drag show just for us!!