

**Greater Georgetown Chamber of Commerce
Board of Director's Meeting
January 6, 2010**

Minutes

Participants

Board Members: Helen Kruger, Buzz Matthews, Ashley Hoban, Jeanne Dukes, Linda Price, Lit Dryden, John Rieley, Ray Hopkins, Joan Tyndall, Bernice Edwards, Bill Taylor, David Mueller, Art Blanchette, Robbie Robinson, Jeff Benson

Also Present: Karen Duffield, ED

Topic	Details	Action Items
Welcome	Meeting was called to order by Ray Hopkins @ 4:05. Outlined his plans for year. Committees to have details worked out before coming to board. Board to come up with ideas on how we as a Chamber can promote businesses. Also to be thinking about how we can help to attract businesses to come to Georgetown by trying to determine what are the leading issues for businesses between Town, County and State (ie Food Lion, Royal Farms & Delmarva Insulation). We also want to make sure we do not duplicate efforts, especially if Economic Development Council is working with these agencies. Ray also pointed out new Executive Board and had everyone introduce themselves.	More to follow on drafting of letter from Chamber President Ray with input from Economic Development
Approval of the Minutes	The December 2, 2009 minutes were emailed and Ray asked for approval and/or discussion	Motion made by Helen, second by Bill. Motion carried
Treasurer's Report	The Treasurer's Report, including EOY 2009 Balance Sheet and P & L, as well as 2009 Budget vs Actual, was provided. Joan said that the 2010 budget has already been approved and that the consensus was to again stay on target for budget items, events, etc, which was a big help for 2009	Motion made by Helen, second by Linda. Motion carried.
Economic Development	Lit advised that Randy Cash is going to be presiding over ED for 2010. He again extended an invitation to all board members to come to the meetings. First Wednesday of each month at noon, train station, lunch being provided. Lit gave a brief background of ED for the newer board members. ED is selective with its speakers as the purpose is mainly to get together with leading individuals in and around GT and discuss issues, development, new businesses etc, but is looking to have Jayne Armstrong, Sen Carper and more. Joan feels it is very worth while as you will more than likely learn about new businesses and more. It was suggested that minutes from the ED meetings be emailed to at least Chamber Board members if not all membership. (Karen did pass out December minutes)	
Wings & Wheels	Linda advised date for 2010 is 10/2, earlier than last year, the hope is the weather will be better, although we need to start the planning process earlier. The first planning	

	meeting is 1/21 @ 3pm at the GT Airport. Linda asked for anyone interested in helping plan the event to come to this meeting. Linda also advised that the monies net from 2009 are going into a fund to help attract more planes (as most came last year as a favor to the Wings coordinator, but that left us not knowing what we would get for planes.). This fund will go toward helping with fuel costs, along with some monies raised by the Wings group.	
Parade Committee	Chair Ray Hopkins thanked Jeanne Dukes, all sponsors, contributors and participants in this year's parade. It is felt that the parade was successful, but to try next year to focus on bands. 2010 Chair will be Jeanne and she has already started to think about the bands. Most band participation was down, not due to money, but due to commitments for parades or events in their hometowns. Jeanne will get info out earlier in the hopes of booking more for 2010. There was some discussion concerning the Town's decorations and the possibility of rolling monies, not contingent on sponsors to next year to help purchase commercial grade decorations, lights for windows etc. The consensus was to grow the program first (more bands etc), then possibly put a % that could go toward decorations.	Joan and David to work together to come up with costs for commercial grade decorations, banners, lights etc by February board meeting
Sussex Young Professionals	Karen had David talk a little about this upcoming group. David said this was an organization geared to 20,30 & 40 year old business professionals in Sussex County aimed at networking and more. The first meeting was held in December and had a good turnout. David would like to align with the Chamber in an effort to give the organization more credibility. 16 Mile Brewery has offered to hold next meeting.	
Membership	Chair Helen Kruger reported that we currently have 431 members . Last year we lost 50, but brought in 50 and we have the potential of at least 6-8 new members. It is hoped that the Partnership Program and the new membership directory will help build the membership. Helen advised a lot of work was done on the delinquency list, which helped considerably. The current delinquency list is included in the board package and Helen asked that if anyone could help with the remaining names to let her know. We are still looking for new members, so each director was provided with a couple of membership packages to use while they are out and about.	
Christmas Party	Karen advised that due to the hard work of Toby, The Georgia House and Cheer, the budget for the Christmas party that started at \$5000, paired down to \$3000, actually came in at \$2900.00. All had a good time, lots of networking opportunities. There was a small issue with food, thinking we ran out, but Karen advised there was a misconception with the wait /kitchen staff that thought we were done and cleared all the food away.	
2010	Karen indicated that she had a meeting with Lynn Lester.	Motion made by Lit,

Breakfasts/ Mixers	<p>With the new takeover of the restaurant by the Brick Hotel, and new staff, the contract was re-reviewed. The cost will go up starting in February by \$1.00 to \$9.00. There was a lot of discussion.</p> <p>Karen advised that there are still some open mixer slots, so if anyone knows of anyone wanting to hold a mixer to let her know.</p>	<p>second by Bernice to accept the increase. All were favor, with Bill, Art & John dissenting.</p> <p>Karen to email master list of mixers to board</p>
Committee/ Task Forces	<p>Karen said that included in the board packages was a listing and description of all committees, task forces and events. Karen advised that every board member is required to join and become involved in one or more of these. She wanted everyone to review the handout and email her with what they would like to be a part of.</p>	
2011 Chicken Festival	<p>Karen again advised that Georgetown was selected for the 2011 Festival. We have a lot of planning to do and she has asked for volunteers to help. The site selected is the Marvel Museum, but we have an issue with parking. It was thought that we could use the development property next to the museum, but that has fallen through. We are now actively looking for a location that could accommodate 2000 cars (approx 15 Acres) coming and going. Some suggestions were Del Tech, Sussex Tech and DMV. Anyone with suggestions, please call or email Karen, we need to have firm plans for this by the end of January.</p>	
New Business	<p>Making a connection – Karen briefly told us that this is an effort to try to reach out to the Hispanic community and businesses. This is a segment of our community, due to the language barrier, that we have not been able to adequately help. We want the businesses to know about the Chamber and how the Chamber can help them.</p> <p>Student-2-Business – these are cards that will be provided to students who show their student ID of local businesses that are offering them discounts. Our role is to get businesses to participate</p> <p>Farmers Market – there currently are 2 potential locations, one of which is the Christian HS. More will follow</p>	
Adjourn	<p>At 5:25 pm</p>	<p>Motion made by Jeanne, 2nd by Bernice. Motion carried</p>
New Meeting		<p>February 3, 2010 @ 4 pm is next board meeting.</p>

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Linda Price 01/08/10