

**GREATER GEORGETOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THE GEORGETOWN TRAIN STATION
Wednesday, July 1, 2009
4:00 P.M.**

In Attendance: Debbie Hartstein, Joan Tyndall, Kyle Morgan, Karen Duffield, Garry Killman, Buzz Matthews, Jamie Magee, Jeanne Dukes, Lit Dryden, Bernice Edwards, Helen Kruger and Robin Parker.

Debbie Hartstein, President, called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm at the Georgetown Train Station, Georgetown, Delaware.

Minutes: The minutes were sent by email to all board members and copies were made available at the meeting.

Robin Parker motioned to approve the minutes.
Helen Kruger seconded.
Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Joan Tyndall had emailed the treasurers report and copies were made available at the meeting.

The budget was reviewed for the first six months. Some items reviewed were:

New membership Dues Up
Renewal Dues Down due to loss of some members.
Tourism Grant Income down – expected to increase in the summer months.
Website advertising is up as well as Website links.
Wal-Mart Partnership contributed income of \$4600.00 being split between the Wings and Wheels and Scholarship fund.
Internet Expense is high due to a lost check that caused double billing. The Membership plaque Expense is high which was caused by the plaques being ordered for the entire year.
Joan Tyndall is working with Verizon to decrease fees on phone bill and internet bill.

Robin Parker motioned to approve the treasurer report.
Helen Kruger seconded.
Motion Carried.

Replacement- Board Director Position -

Flyers and Letters were sent out regarding the vacant board position.
Three applications were received from the following people:

Bill Taylor, Mike Leoni, and John Riley.

Emails were sent with the applications to the Executive Directors. Bill Taylor was recommended to the board.

Lit Dryden motioned to approve Bill Taylor as the replacement.
Jeanne Dukes seconded with discussion.

After discussion, Motion carried.

The remaining interested parties will be asked to join committees by Karen Duffield.

Committee Reports/2009 Review

By-Laws and policy changes– changes were emailed to all officers for review. Additional changes pertaining to an officer's absence from meetings were discussed. After discussion: an officer cannot have 3 unexcused absences from meetings in a one year period, unless you have been granted a leave of absence.

Motion was made to approve the changes emailed and the new attendance change.
Motion made by Jeanne Dukes
Bernice Edwards seconded.
Motion Carried.

Ashley Hoban has requested a 3 month leave of absence due to employment changes.
Bernice Edwards made motion to approve
Helen Kruger seconded.
Motion Carried.

Enrique Nunez has requested to resign as officer due to other commitments.

Jeanne Dukes motioned to have John Riley join the board subject to Enrique Nunez's vacancy of his 1 year term.

Membership – We now have 435 members. We have recently lost several members due to the economy. A membership committee meeting was held and several things were discussed:

A new packet was distributed to board members to assist in promoting the chamber. This packet will contain information regarding the benefits of the website and web link for new businesses. It is a great way for small business to advertise and if they do not have a current website they can use the chamber website.

Joan discussed the current members having the capabilities to personalize their web link with logos and benefits of their business. Once the business joins the chamber they will be able to email the information to Joan and she will make the changes.

Other benefits include the weekly newsletter that keeps businesses abreast of the news and events of Georgetown.

A possible membership drive will be discussed at future meetings.

Robin Parker will be contacting several banks regarding their New Account Representatives handing out Chamber of Commerce information to any new businesses.

Cards being sent to chamber members that have a sickness were discussed.

Delinquent accounts

A Policy change was discussed on the handling of delinquent dues accounts.

60 Days past due – A letter will be mailed offering installment payments of dues

75 Days past due – A letter will be mailed warning of that the membership will be discontinued after 90 days.

90 Days membership cancelled.

Kyle Morgan motioned to approve these changes
Jamie Magee seconded this motion.

Motion carried.

Scholarship – Jamie Magee thanked Karen Duffield and Jeanne Dukes for being on the committee. There were 12 applicants. It was decided to give two 1,000.00 scholarships. The two scholarships will go to Rebecca McMullen and Meghan Whittington. They have been notified and they have been asked to attend the July 22 lunch meeting.

Economic Development Council – Lit Dryden discussed the Economic Development meeting. Allen Levin, the Director of DEDO will be attending the August 5 meeting. It will be held at the Board of Realtors facility. Food will be provided. Lunch will begin at 11:30 and the meeting will be from 12:00 until 1:00. There will be a PowerPoint presentation which will contain pictures of some of the beautiful and interesting points of Georgetown. There will be a 15 minute question and answer period. If you have any questions, please forward to Karen Duffield.

Buzz Matthews also discussed the Ellen DeGeneres “Wacky Chair” contest.

Parade Update – Jeanne Dukes will be assisting Ray Hopkins with the Parade. A meeting was held and the Parade Book was reviewed and the basics have been confirmed. There will be a discussion at a later date regarding the balloons. There has been no response from any of the school bands. Joan Tyndall suggested emailing the contacts of

the schools. The emcee was discussed. Dennis Ketterman did a great job last year and also gave free press. Any suggestions are welcome.

Wings and Wheels Update – The 2009 wings and wheels has been confirmed with the Airport. Southern Delaware Aviation and The Car Show have agreed to pay some of the miscellaneous expenses. Committees are being formed. Thursday, July 9, 3:00 will be the next meeting. Kyle asks for suggestions of someone to lead the committee in 2010. He has other commitments. Jamie Magee mentioned Edna Ellett as a possible replacement. Emails will be sent to possible replacements.

Personnel – Bernice Edwards reported that the evaluation of Karen Duffield, Executive Director, has been completed. After the budget is reviewed, the salary will be discussed further.

Helen Kruger made the motion to adjourn the meeting
Kyle Morgan seconded
The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Robin Parker, Secretary