

Minutes of NZ Chambers of Commerce Northland
meeting of The Executive Board
held 4.00pm 23rd July 2013

President welcomes Board

PRESENT: Ryan Welsh, Murray Broadbelt, Terry Sage, Daryl Small, Jeremy Tauri, Tony Collins, Paul Dunn, Annie Johnston, Shelley Nissen, Cr Tony Davies-Colley, Rob Meadows, Tim Robinson, Vince Cocurullo.

APOLOGIES: Laura Burns, Jeroen Jongejans, Cr Merv Williams , Talia Mana

Moved/Seconded
Vince/Murray

LATE ARRIVALS: Laura 4.20pm

EARLY LEAVERS:

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Moved/Seconded
Terry/Annie

FINANCE REPORT: Daryl spoke regarding the Finance KPI report for May 2013

- Revenue \$57K
 - Awards Sponsorship \$44K
 - Subscriptions \$8K
 - Plus smaller contracts - MSD \$3,700
 - YTD \$166K compared with \$191K last year
 - Tony advised that we did not get the MSD contract due to major changes and all but 1 other Chamber were the same
- Surplus \$21K
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- Balance Sheet
 - Maximum funds available \$77k for month
- Receivables – looking good
 - 90 days + mainly APs
- Membership
 - New 3, Resigned 7 = 385
 - Noted that resigned includes a lot of Konica Minolta memberships

Moved/Seconded

Daryl/Ryan

CEO REPORT:

Tony highlighted the following:

A/P: Tony to contact NorthTec re Campus Chamber member cancellations, to see if these members were still at NorthTec or had moved into work/business situations.

Still working on – there is another Campus Chamber event planned for the 1st of August.

A/P: Tony to look into constitution to check what the process is to change Balance date to June.

There is nothing to say that this cannot be changed.

A/P: Tony to contact NZTE direct regarding the Regional Business Partnership and to liaise with Northland INC.

He met with Malcolm Nicolson from NRC and spoke to Euan Purdie from NZTE and they are comfortable with the current situation and have extended this contract for another 6 months. The Chamber staff will commit more admin hours to help record and collate the information required to reach target numbers. All meaningful business interactions counted, including Business Mentors.

A/P: Tony to circulate previous candidate questions – Board to provide feedback.

Done

A/P: Tony to ask Mark Simpson if WDC would like to host a BA5 type election event.

2 dates have been arranged – the 3rd of September along with The Northern Advocate and Mediaworks in the Exhibition Hall at Forum North and on the 18th of September in a Pucha Kucha style.

A/P: Media releases to go to Peter Jackson, Tony to provide articles for Northland Age.

Done – we will provide a Column to go in their paper once a month.

Moved/Seconded

Vince/Murray

COUNCIL

REPRESENTATIVE

REPORTS:

NRC:

Tony D-C reiterated the importance of Northland INC maintaining capability within their organisation to act as a mechanism to attract visitors to Northland and that the appointment of a new CEO is a priority and then to appoint other directors.

- Tony DC was asked who would be appointing the new CEO of Northland INC – Malcolm Nicolson and the Northland INC

WDC:

No report as Merv was away

TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS/REPORTS:

Ease of Business:

- Meeting was had 3rd July, meeting notes were tabled.

The recent earthquake started another discussion on how to attract new businesses to Northland and how we could capitalize on the fact that we are still 'open for business.' Vince has spoken to businesses and said that the general consensus was that the Northland lifestyle was what attracted people to move North.

It was also mentioned that the Northland INC sector marketing video was released that there was still dissatisfaction from some sectors over the message portrayed.

The question of statistics on the ratio of new businesses versus growth of existing businesses was raised in Northland too.

A/P: Ryan to contact call centre in Wellington to ask if they considered Whangarei as a viable option

A/P: Each Board member to ask customers what they see are the advantages of living/doing business in Northland are – perhaps that could be a mayoral candidate question.

A/P: Tony to check with Darrel Jones at NRC as to statistics/figures available about business numbers.

Advocacy/Membership Action Group:

Meeting notes were tabled.

Another issue raised is the current effect the change of the Air NZ planes is creating with passengers being 'bumped off' due to weather conditions. Tony advised that he has a meeting arranged with Air NZ and WDC on the 12th of August to discuss these issues. The question of whether a competitor being present would alleviate the problems.

A/P: Tony to write to Jetstar to see if viable option for them to start domestic services in and out of Whangarei.

Transformational Issues:

- **Marine Park**
 - Tony DC advised that the \$20k to be allocated from NRC to Marine Park research & progress is now to be spent on contracting to someone outside of council

Awards:

With only 3 ½ weeks until close of entries we are still looking for more Emerging and Large business category entrants.

A/P: Board members to supply Shelley with Potential entrants list.

Business Mentors:

A/P: Board to send through any names of businesses that would benefit from having a Business Mentor. (From June meeting)

Moved/Seconded

Vince/Annie

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Tony is currently re-doing policies and procedures at Chamber and by November should have totally revised policies and procedures manual. He mentioned that there may be a need to revise the Chambers Strategic plan and review more often, possibly 6 monthly.

Ongoing Discussion over Board members standing for election with the following motion being carried:

“That any Board member, including re-standing council representatives, seeking election in an upcoming local body election stand down as of closure of candidacy to election date”.

Moved/Seconded

Tim/Murray

Carried

Abstained

Vince

Meeting closed: 5:18pm

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 27th August 2013

President **Date.....**

