

Minutes of NZ Chambers of Commerce Northland  
meeting of The Executive Board  
held 4.00pm 26th March 2013

Ryan welcomed the Board, in particular the new Board members. Advised that he has a few changes to the Board meeting format he would like to discuss, and this will be added to General Business.

**PRESENT:** Annie Johnston, Daryl Small, Jeremy Tauri, Cr Jeroen Jongejans, Laura Burns,  
Murray Broadbelt, Paul Dunn, Rob Meadows, Ryan Welsh, Terry Sage, Tim  
Robinson, Cr Merv Williams (Council Rep), Cr Tony Davies-Colley(Council Rep)

**APOLOGIES:** Talia Mana, Jon Moore

Moved/Seconded  
Jeroen/Murray

**LATE ARRIVALS:** Vince Cocurullo (4.10pm)

**EARLY LEAVERS:** Vince Cocurullo (4.20pm)

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

Moved/Seconded  
Tim/Ryan

**FINANCE REPORT:** Daryl spoke to the financial report, February results from Page 5 of the agenda.

- **Revenue:** \$21K turnover which includes subscriptions, sponsorship and contracts.
- **Expenses:** \$14K plus \$4k MSD expense leaving \$2K surplus
- **YTD:** \$2K loss
- **Finance meeting** – discussed budget, which will be finalized once Tony has met with MSD regarding ongoing contract.
- Similar results showing as last year.
- **Receivables:** 70% showing in current and 30days. The 90days plus , have spoken to Janette, still processing credits for resignations and following up with overdue amounts.
- **Membership:** 3 New, 0 Resigned = Total 406 members

Moved/Seconded  
Tim/Murray

**CEO REPORT:** Tony spoke to his report.

Moved/Seconded

## **Previous Action Points**

### **Local Government Reform, Act of Parliament**

**A/P: Tony to follow up re understanding the act and its implications.**

NRC and WDC are providing workshops and seminars to provide information. Most Tony has spoken to are in favour of a 1 or 2 Unitary Authority option.

### **Growth Guide**

**A/P: Tony to look into this prospect further.**

Still in progress

### **Potential Joint Venture with other Chambers**

**A/P: Tony to raise at next Hub meeting in early March.**

One of the items discussed at the Hub meeting was looking at new ways to initiate youth employment.

### **MSD Contract**

Tony is catching up with MSD this week. New contract if awarded is likely to be in a new format.

### **Awards Sponsorship**

Top Energy has come on board as a sponsor.

TPK are interested and will advise shortly if they would like to sponsor an awards for Maori Business.

### **Events**

A cautionary note regarding events, calendar is getting too crowded, which could mean a drop in attendees.

Vince arrived

## **AWARDS REPORT:**

Terry advised that as he wasn't able to attend the last meeting he would like to revisit one of the previous items.

- **3 years ago we had a proposal from another event company to run a series**

**of run up events to promote the awards and encourage entrants. I have discussed these events with Kate Claydon and we both agreed that they are worth investigating further for this year.**

Terry has spoken with Kate who would be happy to work on a run up event. Tony outlined potential pre events for the Awards and which might encourage more businesses to enter. He also noted that the Awards website went live this week.

Sponsorship has been mostly confirmed, but waiting to hear from KDC and FNDC. Golden Bay Cement have indicated yes, but details still to be confirmed. Discussion over number of attendees for Gala Dinner and venue. Due to availability and suitability Forum North is the only venue which can accommodate and stay within a budget.

Discussion over ticket prices. Tony advised that we are working on those at present.

**COMS/MARKETING  
REPORT:**

Jeremy commented that at the Chamber BA5, there were several benefits like Z and Noel Leeming which needed to be promoted more. He suggested looking into a Chamber discount scan card or keyring.

**A/P: Tony to follow up further with Auckland Chamber.**

**ADVOCACY REPORT:**

Tim advised that meeting was held although he was unable to attend. Business as usual. This is a good forum for discussing potential Advocacy issues.

**GOVERNMENT  
RELATIONS:**

Murray advised that no Northland MP is in Cabinet and the local Whangarei MP is now back living in Whangarei

**COUNCIL  
REPRESENTATIVE  
REPORTS:**

**NRC:** Cr Tony Davies-Colley highlighted the following;  
**Fresh Water Policy:** covering Kokopu Road – Ruatangata area  
Setting up a group to help work on Quality Water policy statement. This has

Portfolio Reports  
Moved/Seconded  
Daryl/Murray

significant implications for Northland, a trade-off between economy and water quality.

**Local Government:** Councils have until 8<sup>th</sup> April to lodge proposal. NRC staff a holding Workshops/meetings to try to explain the process to the public.

**Tony C.** advised that both councils have provided a valuable amount of information.

**WDC:** Cr Merv Williams highlighted the following;

Merv followed on that people are coming forward with ideas – a nightmare to deal with.

WDC busy at present with Draft Annual Plan just sent out. No changes except possible move for council into a more suitable building. Potential for NorthTec to move in to Forum North for it's campus.

Bridge and walkway, looking good with 4.5k loop around harbor.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

### **Item 1 – Meeting format**

Ryan advised that he would like to raise the prospect of changing the format of Chamber meetings. He found that KRA teams and portfolios were a backwards looking option and we need to be more forward looking.

- His idea is to have more of a discussion group, after the constitutional/governance issues are completed on the agenda which only take up approximately 20 minutes. The idea is to pick issues to drive forward and the whole board get involved.
- There is a great skills matrix on the Board this year, and we need to get that collective brain power to help drive projects forward.
- There are things that we already do well, for example events like BA5s and Awards.
- Chamber needs to Champion ideas – lead and/or facilitate, and provide tangible rewards for members.
- Ryan spoke of how Northlanders and Northland businesses don't promote themselves well.
- Credit and recognition is sometimes the only reason some people/organisations get behind something, there is a need to work collaboratively, and without regard to who gets the recognition. If projects go ahead everyone benefits.
- Big players are the councils, but also banks play a key role.
- More collaborative approach needed by councils, Northland needs to do this by councils not competing.
- Increase in productivity in Maori businesses.

- Chambers across NZ to push a particular idea to benefit small to medium businesses – canvas at central and local government.
- Action points will be given out to board members to suit their particular skills.  
More discussion – How do the project/issues get identified?
- External speakers a possibility.
- Caution regarding discussion and flow of meetings. Need checks and balances to manage process going forward.
- Collaboration regarding Chambers – be aware of competition and conflicts of interest.
- Allocate 30 minutes every second meeting for an informative speaker – this will help with ideas we can move on.
- Suggestion that the Chamber involve all members in the unitary authority discussion. Tony outlined the processes already taking place.
- Suggestion of targeted work groups – What will the working groups achieve for our members once issues have been identified?
- Action point list at end of meeting will hold board members accountable.

Activities will fit into the following categories

- Events, Awards etc
- Governance
- Brand – what makes us relevant to members
- Big picture stuff

Meetings should have

- Structure
- Substance
- Actions

Discussion over Tony C.'s role.

**A/P: Board to email 5 actionable ideas through by Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April.**

**A/P Janette to email an invitation to the Board for Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April for discussion on meeting structure.**

## **Item 2 – DOC**

Jeroen outlined changes to DOC structure he has received through.

**Item 3 – Institute of Directors**

Tony DC advised that Institute of Directors is a branch of Auckland. They would like a Northland organisation to provide an administration role if they become an individual branch.

Two aspects:

- Speakers for Events
- Training
  - Need for a lower level in training in Northland. Governance affects many parts of the community.

**Motion: “That the Chamber investigate the facilitation of training with Institute of Directors”**

Moved/Seconded

Tim/Murray

**Meeting closed: 5.25**

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2013, Chamber Boardroom

President ..... Date.....