

Minutes of NZ Chambers of Commerce Northland
meeting of The Executive Board
held 4.00pm 28th July 2015

The President welcomed the Board

PRESENT: Richard Booth, Wayne Roycroft, Rob Meadows, Tony Shi, Cr Paul Dimery, Cr Tricia Cutforth, Danny Douglas, Paul Dunn, Richard Cranenburgh, Vince Cocurullo, Tim Robinson, Shelley Nissen, Tony Collins, Jeremy Tauri.

APOLOGIES: Terry Sage **Moved/Seconded**
Tim/Paul

LATE ARRIVALS: Vince Cocurullo (4.05pm)
Cr Tricia Cutforth (4.05pm)
Virginia Craig (4.08pm)
Ryan Welsh (4.10pm)

EARLY LEAVERS:

PREVIOUS **Moved/Seconded**
MINUTES: Paul/Tim

FINANCE REPORT: Danny spoke about the Finance KPI report

- This year there is a difference in the timing of the Awards sponsorship payments
- Ricoh memberships will begin to come through next month
- It is positive that we continue to stay over the 400 members mark

Moved/Seconded
Vince/Laura

CEO REPORT:

1. The Business 2 Business publication will be postponed to April 2015 instead of December this year. This will reduced the clash of other advertising opportunities for our members with our Wall planner and the Whangarei Map and guide. It could also result in a better uptake and invoicing with coincide with the beginning of the financial year for many businesses and can be included in the mid year mail out.
2. A review of the Regional Business Partnership contract is due to take place and Tony is to prepare a RFP.
3. There will be a change of funding for Business Mentors NZ as this will go through NZTE. This should not affect the Chamber as we are already a part of the RBP but there are some Chambers throughout NZ that will be affected by this change. We are expecting it to remain business as usual.
4. Tony suggested that only the Ease of Business meetings should continue, especially as these are gaining traction and only meetings to address issues as they arise are needed. Currently there is no value from other team meetings. All were in agreement
5. Dropbox or attachments?
The board was asked which method they preferred for information. Most preferred email attachments but it was requested that Dropbox be used also.
6. New Business Excellence Awards sponsor
E-Road are our new sponsors for the large category for the NBEA.

Moved/Seconded

Laura/Jeremy

TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS/REPORTS:

Ease of Business/Advocacy

- Tony and Ryan had a recent meeting to consolidate Ease of Business work to date.
- Recent meeting with Shane Reti resulted in Shane agreeing to comments/messages being added on the back of his signs/billboards – i.e. “thank you for visiting, see you again soon” etc. To decide on a united message and contact Tristan from Big Fish creative to put into action.
- An update session with the board is required to update of Ease of Business policy – perhaps a Sunday morning/afternoon. A suggested date of Sunday 16th August, in the afternoon is to be organised
- Tony and Ryan recently met with TVNZ to discuss the possibility of Whangarei’s weather being included in the weather report. Expected costing for this is around \$10K. It could be great exposure nationwide to showcase the “winterless north”. TVNZ are to come back with pricing and meet with possible options for positioning of either 1 or 2 cameras for this.
- A recent meeting with the board and Winston Peters was had and here he acknowledged a need for leadership and collaboration between everyone in Northland. There are currently 5 representatives from Northland all with the same united message from the Chamber about Road infrastructure and better business development. Winston also felt that there is a highlighted need to rail and the link to Port was obvious.

A/P: Message to be confirmed

A/P: Shelley to email board invitation for meeting on Sunday 16th August.

Moved/Seconded

Tim/Vince

COUNCIL

REPRESENTATIVE

REPORTS:

WDC: Cr Tricia Cutforth highlighted the following

- Submission process for the local alcohol policy received 101 verbal and 293 written submissions
- Commercial rates – meetings over the next week will take place to best discuss review of these
- Today there was a workshop to discuss the Village plan for Kamo.

- Another workshop with Environmental Northland will commence to discuss and review issues such as the Parking Policy. They are asking for any feedback to assist with this.
- Tomorrow a meeting at the Chamber of Commerce at 5.15pm with Bank Street business owners will take place to discuss the revitalisation from lower Bank Street up to Fire Brigade Hill.
- 31st July – Mayors taskforce for jobs meeting

NRC: Cr Paul Dimery highlighted the following

- Budget has just gone through the transport committee
- There is a concern that with the change of management in KDC there could be a loss of expertise. (see below for Richard’s response) There needs to be a set of systems to continue to work together with a clear direction from NRC
- Environmental Awards have started in schools – rewarding initiative with small grants
- Cycle ways funding is coming through and are pushing for one going to Tutukaka and hopefully Whananaki
- A catchment group has been developed for Ngunguru
- The Kotuku Dam project has had a slight delay with subsidence affecting a house so this has had to be stabilized
- NRC are currently talking with Ngawha/Top energy about the potential for jobs

KDC: Richard Booth highlighted the following

- LTP recently completed – there will be a rates increase over a 10 year period but will result in the current \$75million debt being reduced to \$65million (reduction of 25%)
- The commissioners have implemented tasks given by the Minister. Policies and procedures are in place and it is hoped a new CO will be in place before the new council is appointed next year. (in response to NRC comment above).
- Rural Broadband fund, all Northland councils are working together to oversee the implementation of rural broadband
- Roothing from NZTA – Northland has been granted 22% of the funding compared to the national average of 6%.

NZTA are impressed with the collaboration of the Northland councils with regular meetings and a willingness to work together and this has resulted in good funding

GENERAL BUSINESS:

None discussed

Meeting closed: 4.55pm

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 25th August 2015

President **Date.....**