

***** BOARD MEETING *****

Committee: Directors and Advisory Directors 2008

Meeting: Scheduled Meeting

Place: Entergy Cafeteria

Date: 12/19/2007

Time: 3:30 P.M.

***** PRESENT *****

Arnold, Eddie*	Eddie Arnold, Jefferson County Commissioner PCT 1
Avery, Yolanda*	Lamar Institute of Technology
Babineaux, Slate*	Air Comfort, Inc.
Bates, Eddie	C & I Oil Company, Inc.
Bernard, A. B.*	BGI Contractors
Brandt, Vesta	Clear Channel Radio
Burger, Tom*	ExxonMobil Beaumont Refinery
Calhoun, Patrick*	Beaumont Independent School District
Callender, Frances	Promotion Solutions
Chisum, Bessie*	Chisum Resource Management
Condon, Gerald*	Collision & Classics, Inc.
Cotten, Don*	Lamar University
Cross, Nathan	Edgar, Kiker & Cross, PC, C.P.A.'s
Dollinger, John E. "Jed"*	Wathen, DeShong & Juncker, L.L.P.
Elrod, Mike*	KBMT-TV, Channel 12
Fisher, Chris	Port of Beaumont
Goodson, Guy	Germer Gertz, L.L.P.
Greer, Van	KBTU, Channel 4
Guillory, Georgine*	Revues
Hatton, Mike	Texas State Bank
Kraemer, Kenny*	Star Graphics, Inc.
Lundgreen, Kurt*	Parkdale Mall
Moor, Ted	Talon Insurance Agency, LTD.
Neild, William*	W.E. Neild Consulting, LLC
Nejad, Sina	Sigma Engineers, Inc.
Ortego, Jolene*	Beaumont Independent School District
Parmer, David	Memorial Hermann Baptist Hospitals
Pierce, Vernon	Entergy-Texas
Roy, Kevin	InterFlow Factors Corporation
Scoggin, Ann	Coldwell Banker Southern Homes
Sheppard, Jay*	Better Business Bureau in Southeast Texas
Sherman, C. L. "Sonny"	Ritter Lumber Company
Silva, Luis*	Silva Employment Network
Snider, Walter	Snider & Byrd, L.L.P.
Stein, Mark*	ExxonMobil Chemical Beaumont Chemical Specialty Plant (BCSP)
Sudela, Tim	American Valve & Hydrant Manufacturing Company
Szuch, Paul*	Lamar Institute of Technology
Teuscher, David*	David Teuscher, MD
Thomas, Carrol	Beaumont Independent School District
Turner, Robert	J K Chevrolet Isuzu
Walden, Sally	Spindletop MHMR Services

***** ABSENT *****

Ames, Becky**	City Of Beaumont
Arnold, Sheri*	Coldwell Banker Commercial Arnold and Associates

Barton, John**	Texas Department of Transportation
Beadle, Drew*	MidSouth Bank
Beaulieu, Larry*	KFDM-TV Freedom Corporation
Bethea, Sam*	Entergy-Texas
Bjornaas, Glenn*	Bill Clark Pest Control, Inc.
Bothe, Paula	Four Alarm Productions, Inc.
Broussard, Tom*	Broussard's Mortuary, Inc.
Carroll, Rod*	Stat Care EMS
Conwell, Dean*	Beaumont Convention & Visitors Bureau
Cox, Charles	Capital One Bank
Ege, Charles*	Wachovia Bank, N.A.
Eisen, Jay*	Sampson Steel Corp.
Foxworth, Charlie	Foxworth Real Estate Co., Ltd
Geyser, Bill*	Coburn Supply Co., Inc.
Gillingham, Jim*	Valero Port Arthur Refinery
Grantham, Steve	JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A.
Hamburg, Mike*	Sartomer Company
Hawa, John*	Entre Business Technology Center
Hayes, Kyle*	City Of Beaumont
Holland, Wayne*	Capital One Bank
Howard, Carolyn*	Beaumont Main Street
Ireland, Mike*	Efficient Systems, Inc.
Jones, Ellen*	CHRISTUS Hospital
Kalkbrenner, Chuck*	AT&T
Knight, Barbara*	Creativity Unlimited, Inc
Mayo, Thomas*	Mehaffy & Weber, P.C.
Meadows, Eric*	Phelan Investments
Newhouse, John*	The Beaumont Enterprise
Phelan, Lan*	Phelan Investments
Reese, Randy*	Sabine Neches Waterway & Navigation District
Risso, Daniel	ExxonMobil Beaumont Refinery
Schultz, David*	Golden Triangle Storage
Schultz, Russ	Lamar University
Simmons, Jimmy**	Lamar University
Van Dyke, Brenda	Jeneal International Skin Correction & Health Centers
Viator, Mark*	Partnership Strategies, L.L.C.
Weinbaum, Bo*	PRIMCO

* advisory directors

**ex-officio

***** Staff *****

Jim Rich	Tina Simpson
Shirley Bartos	Jacquetta Walker
Brandi Miller	

David Parmer, chairman of the board, called to order the meeting of the Greater Beaumont Chamber of Commerce board of directors at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 19, 2007 in the Entergy cafeteria.

Minutes

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2007 meeting and the December 6, 2007 called meeting. Motion passed.

Financial Statements

Kevin Roy, chairman for fiscal affairs, presented the October and November financial statements.

It was moved and seconded to affirm the approval of the October financial statement made by the executive committee on November 13. Motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to approve the November financial statement. Motion passed.

Membership Report

Ann Scoggin, chairman for the membership division, presented the November and December new members and attrition reports.

It was moved and seconded to affirm the approval of the November new members and attritions report made by the executive committee on November 13. Motion passed.

It was moved and seconded to approve the December new members and attritions. Motion passed.

Membership Dues Re-structure

President Jim Rich, Membership Services Director Tina Simpson and Membership Division Chairman Ann Scoggin presented a recommendation from the membership division and the executive committee to move away from the traditional membership dues structure based on employee count to a re-structure method of "tiered" or "packaged" dues.

President Rich explained the current dues structure, and Tina Simpson detailed information in each of the "packages." Beginning with members' renewal dates, with the first renewal date being February 2007, members would be offered the following packages: Beaumont Package at \$300, Jefferson Package at \$500, Lamar Package at \$1,500, Neches Package at \$2,500, Spindletop Package at \$5,000, Chairman's Circle at \$15,000. Staff would visit personally with each business at renewal time to review in detail the membership package options. New members, beginning January 1, would be offered the new membership packages.

After questions and answers, it was moved and seconded to approve the membership dues re-structure of packaged dues. Motion passed.

Resignation and Appointment

It was moved and seconded to approve the resignation of Brad Tutunjian, CenterPoint Entergy district manager, who had been transferred to Houston, as an advisory director, and to approve the appointment of Richard Orum, the new district manager for CenterPoint Entergy, as an advisory director. Motion passed.

Advancing New Technologies at Lamar University Program of Work & Chair Appointment

President Rich presented the Advancing New Technologies at Lamar University program of work. It was moved and seconded to approve the program of work as presented. Motion passed.

President Rich announced that Jim Gillingham, chairman for the Advancing New Technologies at LU and manager of Valero Port Arthur, had received a promotion and would be relocating to San Antonio; he, therefore, would resign from his position on the executive committee as chairman of the Advancing New Technologies at LU.

It was moved and seconded to appoint Mark Stein, plant manager at ExxonMobil Chemical Beaumont Specialty Plant, as the new chairman for the Advancing New Technologies at LU. Motion passed.

Strategic Initiatives

Robert Turner, chairman for Advancing Community Development division, reported the branding project was being spearheaded by the city, convention bureau and the chamber, and they were getting close to announcing the brand for Beaumont which was expected to happen in January or February.

Vesta Brandt reported from the city appearance initiative, they were divided into two sub committees, beautification efforts and litter issues. The beautification sub committee would be announcing the winners of the beautification contest, and the litter sub committee had created the Fight Dirty Beaumont slogan and the Trash Ninja video. Ms. Brandt also reported the City of Beaumont had reactivated the *Keep Beaumont Beautiful Commission*.

Government & Public Affairs

Vernon Pierce, chairman for the government & public affairs division, expressed appreciation for everyone's help on getting the BISD bond passed. Mr. Pierce reported meetings were being held between Lake Charles and Beaumont officials to work on joint issues such as the deepening and widening of the ship channel and transportation.

Long Range Planning

Bessie Chisum, chairman for long range planning, thanked the directors for their participation in the last two years board planning sessions that had resulted in the present strategic initiative successes.

***SBA*Alliance**

President Jim Rich presented the *SBA*Alliance report. The report included for 2007 a total of 10 loans approved; the total projects were \$17,574,800. Two other loans were near completion and at the packager's office, and currently there were 13 loan prospects. Ninety-three jobs were created from the 2007 projects.

Annual Meeting

President Rich reported the 2007 annual meeting net revenue was \$42,240.

President's Report

President Rich reported the City of Beaumont renewed their economic development contract with the chamber.

President Rich reported the chamber was now out-of-the furniture distribution business, after having distributed 50 truck loads of furniture given to the community by ExxonMobil.

Other Business

Dr. David Teuscher and Dr. Carroll Thomas expressed appreciation to the chamber as the catalyst in the success of the BISD bond issue. They further explained plans were immediately underway to remove portable buildings at three campuses by the start of the 2008-09 school year. All questions concerning the bond issue construction projects' schedule and bid opportunities could be emailed to Terry Ingram.

Chairman Parmer expressed appreciation to the board for the documented successes and for taking on future initiatives such as workforce needs.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the chamber board would be Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. in the Entergy cafeteria.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. to continue the holiday reception.

Jim Rich, President

Date