

MINUTES
CENTRAL AREA BUSINESS COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
The Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
Thursday, January 8, 2008 – 12:00 p.m.
The Chamber
605 E Commerce

Presiding: Linda Peterson, Chair

Present: Blouet, Boyles, Braubach, Brewer, Lyons, Peterson, Stinson, Woods

Absent: Arevalo, Basaldua, Carberry-Vitier, Corbo, Dominguez, Douglas, Feldman, George, Gonzalez, Martinez, Seiterle

Staff: Casillas, O'Briant

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Chairman Linda Peterson (Guaranty Bank) called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending.

WELCOME AND SELF INTRODUCTIONS: Peterson asked everyone to introduce themselves.

REVIEW: Peterson updated the board on the planning retreat, going over last year's successes and unfinished business. Successes include the VIA presentation and the SAPD presentation. The SAPD presentation led to February's Business Roundtable subject featuring Chief of Police Bill McManus, and the state of the police department in the city. Peterson said that student housing was one of our topics of unfinished business, however this also seemed beyond our control as an ABC. And last but not least, the Small Business Toolbox. Peterson went on to say that she wants this to be a year of rebuilding, with small ideas/events and build on that; huge grandiose ideas are not necessary.

ABC SPONSORED EVENTS: Casillas informed the group that with the elections this year, it is also our year to schedule forums for the candidates running. This year, The Chamber will also host a mayoral debate as well as school district forums. Brewer added that the Downtown Alliance will also host candidate forums, and that the two organizations should work together so that schedule conflicts don't occur. He's also open to hosting forums jointly.

FUTURE SPEAKERS: Peterson asked the board to identify future speakers for board meetings and also Business Roundtables. Lyons stated that he would like

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to hear from Paula Stallcup for an update on downtown from the City. A River North update would also be a good idea, it's been a while since the CABC has heard from them. Lyons also said that he would like more focus on the bike patrol, aside from the overall McManus presentation, as well as the riverwalk and downtown parking issues. Pat D'Giovanni with the City's Economic Development department was also suggested to talk about downtown issues. Lyons further stated that the CABC should maintain a dialogue with these representatives so that they are aware of our issues. Boyles suggested on inviting a representative from Haven for Hope, and BRAC for updates. Brewer stated that he would like to speak at the next CABC meeting on the Renewal of the Downtown Improvement District. Stinson agreed to speak at the March meeting on the new marketing efforts of the Alamo.

WEB UPDATES: Casillas asked the board for goals that they have for the year; these will go on the website outlining what exactly the CABC intends to tackle. Peterson added that she would like for the CABC to have a value statement as well, and Woods stated that it would make sense for this to be in line with The Chamber's statement, and that we should look at that first. Blouet suggested mentioning strong quality of life, which would be vague enough to move around. Woods piggy-backed on that stating 'commercial viability' needs to be included in the statement as well, as it relates to quality of life.

Casillas said that we need to do a better job of promoting the SBRC online. Woods suggested that we advertise it as a meeting space, not just a seminar room.

OTHER: The next Business Roundtable will be February 5, with Chief William McManus presenting on SAPD at Sunset Station. Honermann asked each ABC to select a co-chair who will also serve as the 2009 chair-elect in keeping with the model that The Chamber utilizes. Andrew Blouet volunteered to serve this position. He will fill in for Linda Peterson when she is unavailable.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Staff will contact Stallcup for a presentation to the CABC.
- Staff and Peterson will develop a value statement that will be posted online.

ADJOURN – With no further business before them, the Board of Directors adjourned.

Submitted:_____

Submitted by:_____ Approved by:_____

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