

**Bay Area Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors
July 12, 2006
Red Lion Hotel – 7:00am**

Members present: Chris Christoffer, Sterling Bank; Timm Slater, Natural Resource Consultant; Greg Stevens, The World; Jenny Bream, Brian Bream Screw Machines; Sherry Yarbrough, Umpqua Bank; Joy McCarthy, CCAT; Barry Hayes, Pony Village Mall; Rob Schab, Coos Bay/North Bend Water Board; Barb Gunnell, Gunnell Ins. Agency, Inc.; Renee Middleton, US Bank; Joanie Johnson, Sincerely Yours! Antique Mall; Tom Jackman, Menasha Forest Products; Lucina DiNovo, The Mill Casino and Hotel; Mark Mattecheck, North Bend Lanes.

Others Present: Shirley Liberante, Executive Director; Pam Cottrell, Office Manager; Ambassadors: Patti Denton, Sheri Pribble, Norma Frost, Trish Reid; Louie Liberante, Cardinal Service Inc.; Chris Coles, Coos Bay Downtown Association;

Ex Officio: Theresa Haga, CCD Business Development Corp.

President Chris Christoffer called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made. Chris welcomed ambassadors and Menasha CEO Tom Jackman.

The minutes of June 7, 2006 Board Meeting were unanimously approved as mailed.

President's Report – Chris commended businesses in their efforts in cleaning up, getting ready for the Curtis Cup. Thanked everyone for their efforts and encouraged members to let all businesses know of the coming up event and encourage all businesses and property owners to take this opportunity to shine. Chris made mention of the businesses that were closed over the long holiday week-end. It would be a nice idea to have retail businesses open for visitors to shop when in the area, especially over a holiday week-end. Also made mention that Wi-Fi now available in the Bay Area. This will be a benefit for the public.

Executive Director's Report – Shirley announced, Executive Board changes, Sherri Yarbrough will move to the position of secretary and Brandy Thompson will move from the position of secretary to Vice President. Shirley asked for volunteers to form a Nomination Committee for upcoming election. Chris Cole, Greg Stevens and Lucinda DiNovo volunteered to form the committee. There are seven openings; elections will be August 1, 2006. Shirley recommended changes made to bylaws:

1. That Leadership Coos Steering Committee be a standing committee.
2. Supporting chamber members by: meetings will be held at Chamber member businesses and all purchases for the committee will be made from Chamber member businesses, unless the product or service is not available at a Chamber member Business.
3. That Non chamber members are not eligible for membership in Ambassadors organization. Ribbon cuttings, open houses, and business after hours are reserved for Chamber members as a benefit of membership, community events notwithstanding.

President Chris Christoffer ask for a motion, Tom Jackman moved to change the bylaws, Joni Johnson 2nd the motion.

Discussion was open: Ideas and concerns were shared concerning the Ambassadors participation in Ribbon cuttings for new businesses. Ideas were shared on Welcoming new businesses, Inviting and presenting information of the benefits of becoming a Chamber member. The goal of Bay Area Chamber of Commerce is to help small businesses by making membership affordable. The benefits are great with Web site advertising, publicity, Open house, Ribbon Cutting ceremony, Business after hours. Both sides of the issue were heard. The ambassador's point is to make all new businesses feel welcome with a ribbon cutting. The chamber would like to reserve ribbon cuttings, for the members, but offer all businesses a big welcome with a ribbon cutting as part of the benefits of becoming a chamber member.

President Chris Christoffer called for the vote to accept the changes. A show of hands: 7 votes for / 6 votes against. Motion was passed to accept the changes to the bylaws.

Shirley introduced the board to 4 Star Survey cards. These cards will be available at individual businesses. The customer will fill out the card with comments on service; product availability; over all experience; Is this business worthy of a 4Star Customer Service Award for truly exceptional service. The customer may leave the card at the business or take the card with them to mail later. It is hoped that the card will be used by the individual business to monitor their service and product availability. The 4 Star Customer Service Award nominations will be used by the Chamber to honor businesses for their efforts. Shirley shared that a 4 Star Beautification Award was being made in a decal. So that businesses who receive the award can put the decal in their window. Shirley welcomed new members At Ease Home Care, Inc. and Downtown Health and Fitness, LLC. The Lumber Jack competition was a great success.

Ambassadors: Joy McCarthy took the opportunity to remind everyone that South Coast Business Employment Corp. (SCBEC) will be having their 25th anniversary Open house this evening 3 pm – 6pm. She invited everyone to stop by and congratulate them on 25 years of continued service to the community in training displaced workers. SCBEC is housed in the old GP building, take this opportunity to visit this great old building. Good News is that the State Convention will not be in competition with the Bay Area Fun Festival. So the Ambassadors will be traveling to Roseburg to bid for 2008 convention to be held in the Bay Area. Their theme will be “The Coast is great in 2008.”

Promotion Committee: Mark Mattecheck reported that North Bend will have “July Jubilee” with many fun events: Disc golf tournament; Soft Ball game; Car show; Street Dance. A Great time to be had by all. Come out and celebrate with North Bend.

Adjournment: Time ran short, President Chris Christoffer, ask if any further business to be discussed. Meeting was adjourned.