Greater Newport Area Chamber of Commerce

EBoard Meeting Minutes

9/6/23

1. Jason called the meeting to order at 6:08pm. Jason, Rori, Jackie, Jake, Sue, and Kathy were present. Mandy was on Zoom.
2. No text votes.
3. Minutes from the August Board meeting were reviewed. Discussion was held on posting the minutes to the website. Jason motioned to approve the minutes. Rori seconded. Motion carried.
4. The Creative District requested a letter of support to become a creative district. Jason provided a letter on behalf of the Chamber.
5. School District Vendor Fair: Lynette attended on behalf of the Chamber and chatted with lots of staff and teachers.
6. We approved sharing posts for the whole community regardless of membership status several months ago. Discussion was held about sharing only members’ content moving forward and methods for increasing engagement. Kathy made a motion to limit posts to 3-5 per day on Facebook and only share member posts. Rori seconded. Motion carried. Rori was put in charge of FB posting.
7. Discussion was held on memberships, recruiting new members, and the membership onboarding process. No action was taken.
8. The Chamber has sponsored POYSA (via floating sponsorship) but we haven’t yet seen anything from the t-ball league.
9. Discussion was held regarding the utility of a Chamber sponsorship and Chamber deliverables to businesses overall. Everyone is to present deliverables at next meeting.
10. Treasurer’s report: $225 came in last month, $888 spent. We have approximately $12,000 in the bank. The IRS status is still in waiting status.
11. The EDC seems to be trying to pass the ADO status off to another organization.
12. Discussion was held on calendar events and who to include. Jason would like to price out some different calendars to make it more attractive. No action taken.
13. Gala: $30 per person plus $200 setup fee is what Edgewater wants. Discussion was held on postponing the event as it is still disorganized and there are conflicting events in the community. A suggestion was made to push it to March and encourage donations to the Innovia fire fund. Jason made a motion to postpone to March, Kathy seconded. Motion carried. Jake will put together a press release. Jackie and Jake will chair and co-chair the Gala Committee moving forward.
14. Discussion was held on donating to the PORTA Harvest Festival as their proceeds are going to the Innovia fire fund. Kathy moved to donate $300 and encourage member matching, Jackie seconded. Motion carried.
15. Board meeting format was discussed. Kathy motioned that moving forward we will meet in person once per month at a local restaurant and the Chamber will sponsor Board member meals (no drinks). Jake seconded. Motion carried.
16. Meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.