

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Date: October 18, 2011
Time: 4:00 pm – 6:40 pm
Location: WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation

Present:

Lindsay Boyd, Chair	Joe Byrne	Warden Tom Bain
Ranjana Bird	Shelley Fellows	Mayor Eddie Francis
Dave Cooke	Roy Verstraete	Ron Gaudet, President & CEO
Mike Mueller		

Absent:

Mike Robinson

WEEDC staff present:

Karolyn Hart, VP, WEEDC
Lee Anne Damphouse, WEEDC, Board Liaison

Call to order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Lindsay Boyd, at 4:01 pm.

1.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Moved by Mike Mueller, seconded by Shelley Fellows, to accept agenda as presented.

Carried.

3.0 Approval of Meeting Minutes of last Board Meeting(s)

No motion - The last WEEDC Board meeting minutes were from June 16, 2011 (AGM) and were previously approved by the WEEDC Board.

4.0 Board Reports and Committee Business

4.1 Board Chairperson's Report

The Chair, Lindsay Boyd, briefly discussed the recent awards recently achieved by the WEEDC:

- Identified as one of the Top Canadian Economic Development Groups selected by Site Selection Magazine
- Top Seven Intelligent Communities of the Year

Moved by Roy Verstraete to accept the Chairperson’s Report as presented, seconded by Dave Cooke.

Carried.

4.2 CEO’s Report

The President & CEO, Ron Gaudet, briefly reported on various activities within the WEEDC:

- SBC Open House
- Move to “Themed” Board Meetings –provide insights on the 5 disciplines within the WEEDC (Business Retention & Expansion, Business Attraction, Small Business, Marketing, Community Development)
- Regional Strategies and alliances
- Relocation – progress update
- Currently holding meetings with all county councils – all but two completed - (would like to include Windsor as well)

Vice President, Karolyn Hart reported on WE Prosper – WEEDC has been chosen by The Council of Community and Economic Research (www.c2er.org) as a case study based on the work currently being done in our region. WE Prosper is modeled after the Prosperity Council in Kitchener – WE Prosper made up of 3 council members representing Youth Retention, Small Business and Arts & Culture. First meeting is scheduled for November 9th between 8:00 am and 9:30 am. WEEDC will lead WE Prosper through the first year.

Ron Gaudet spoke on the Perception Survey (Sentiens Research) that was sent out over the summer of 2011. The plan is to send out annually. Over time, the survey will identify areas where the region is strong as well as areas that may need more focus.

Moved by Joe Byrne to accept the President’s Report, seconded by Roy Verstraete.

Carried.

4.3 Sector Committee Reports

- i. **Manufacturing** – Roy Verstraete gave a brief update on the manufacturing sector committee activities.
- ii. **Agri-Business** – Joe Byrne gave a brief update on the Agri sector committee activities.
- iii. **Governance** – (In camera discussion).
- iv. **Finance** – Minutes August 10, 2011 meeting brought forth for approval.

Moved by Roy Verstraete to accept the **Manufacturing** Sector Committee Report (Item 4.3.i), seconded by Shelley Fellows.

Carried.

Moved by Joe Byrne to accept the **Agri-Business** Sector Committee Report (item 4.3.ii), seconded by Mike Mueller.

Carried.

Moved by Shelley Fellows that the Board move to an in-camera session at 4:40 pm, seconded by Mike Mueller.

Carried.

Moved by Joe Byrne that the Board move out of an in-camera session at 4:55 pm, seconded by Mike Mueller.

Carried.

Moved by Joe Byrne to accept the **Governance** Committee Report (item 4.3.iii), seconded by Mike Mueller.

Carried.

Moved by Dave Cooke to accept the **Finance** Committee Meeting minutes from August 10, 2011 (Item 4.3.iv), seconded by Joe Byrne.

Carried.

5.0 Administrative and Management Business

5.1 Regulatory Compliance Report

Moved by Mike Mueller to accept the Regulatory Compliance Report as presented, seconded by Joe Byrne.

Carried.

5.2 Operational Review

- i. **Financial Status and Financial Disclosures***
Ron Gaudet reported on financial status.
- ii. **Client and Business Development Report***
Ron Gaudet reported on several initiatives and economic activity.
- iii. **Legal Issues Report***
No discussion.
- iv. **Partnerships, Stakeholder Engagement Report***
Ron Gaudet reported on initiatives.
- v. **Administrative and Organizational Issue***
Ron Gaudet discussed retaining services of an outside consultant to assist with Cross-Border initiatives.

Mike Mueller suggested that, under Section 4.3 Sector Committee Reports, the Board Members be provided information and advised of activities being conducted under the other sectors (other than Manufacturing and Agri-Business) even if there is nothing to report.

Moved by Shelley Fellows to accept the WEEDC Operational Review and items i, ii, iv, and v as presented, seconded by Joe Byrne.

Carried.

6.0 Events

The Board briefly discussed recent activities of the WEEDC as it relates to Events.

7.0 Media Events

The Board briefly discussed recent activities of the WEEDC as it relates to Media Events.

8.0 Board In-Camera

Moved by Joe Byrne that the Board move to an in-camera session at 6:00 pm, seconded by Shelley Fellows.

Carried.

Board moves out of in- camera session at 6:40 pm.

10.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:40.

Accordingly, the meeting is adjourned at 6:40 pm

CHAIR: _____

VICE-CHAIR: _____

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