

ORANGE BEACH BUSINESS COUNCIL
Steering Committee Meeting – May 19, 2009
Orange Beach Community Development Conference Room
3:00 P.M.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Anita Elisar called the meeting to order and provided an updated list of the steering committee members. Present at the meeting were: Anita Elisar; John Brunick; Ken Cooper; Gary Emerson; Scott Hardee; Elizabeth Helton; Patti Link; Patrick Shed; Mary Lib Turner; Jennifer Peterson; and Tim Wright. Members absent were: Jodi Harsany; and Mike Saulters.

Also present were Mayor Tony Kennon, City Administrator Ken Grimes, Director of Engineering and Environmental Services Kit Alexander, and Ms. Laura Thomas.

II. FOLEY BEACH EXPRESS – KIT ALEXANDER

Kit Alexander discussed the Foley Beach Express Bridge Agreement and provided the committee with information about potential opportunities for the OBBC to assist the City of Orange Beach in generating revenue for the City. Much discussion ensued. Elizabeth Helton volunteered to spearhead this project and will contact businesses via email and report her findings at the next steering committee meeting.

III. LEGAL DECISIONS

A. OFFICERS ELECTIONS

By unanimous vote, the following officers were elected: Anita Elisar – President; Mike Saulters – Vice-President; Patti Link – Secretary; and Jennifer Peterson – Treasurer.

B. TERMS

The following terms of service were established: Anita Elisar – 2 years as President, 3 years on Steering Committee; John Brunick – 2 years; Ken Cooper – 3 years; Gary Emerson – 2 years; Scott Hardee – 3 years; Jodi Harsany – 2 years; Elizabeth Helton – 3 years; Patti Link – 2 years as Secretary, 3 years on Steering Committee; Mike Saulters – 3 years; Patrick Shed – 2 years; Mary Lib Turner – 3 years; Jennifer Peterson – 3 years as Treasurer and on Steering Committee; Tim Wright – 3 years.

C. CHECKS

The committee unanimously agreed that any check over \$100.00 would need two signatures. One of those signatures will be the treasurer and the other will be either the President or the Vice-President.

IV. WWW.ORANGEBEACHCOMMERCE.COM

A. ASSIGNMENTS

John Brunick requested an email list of restaurants that have registered. All members need to continue to get businesses registered.

B. CALENDAR

Any information we want added to the calendar simply needs to be sent to Anita. She can update the calendar. The purpose of the calendar is to provide businesses with up-to-date information about issues important to business. There was discussion about adding a link www.OrangeBeach.ws because they have a calendar also.

C. CITY OF ORANGE BEACH – CONTRACT SERVICES FOR 1 YEAR

The OBBC acknowledged the superior work of IT Director Rauf Bolden in the creation of our website. The City Council meeting this evening will authorize the mayor to contract services for 1 year with the OBBC.

V. BUSINESS – TO – CITY COUNCIL

A. LED SIGN SURVEY

The LED sign survey is approved effective today and will be online tomorrow. OBBC members need to encourage everyone to fill out this survey to provide the city with feedback from Orange Beach businesses and residents. Hard copies of the survey will be available in certain areas around the city for individuals not connected to the internet.

B. PROXIMITY OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE SALES TO SCHOOLS, DAYCARES, AND CHURCHES

This is an issue currently before the city council where the input of the OBBC is useful. All members were encouraged to pay careful attention to this issue and join together to provide a consistent voice to the city. All members are encouraged to attend the Committee of the Whole meetings and the City Council meetings to remain informed and aware of issues impacting business owners.

VI. INITIATIVES

A. KEY TO THE CITY – MAY RECIPIENT AND SPONSOR

Our first recipient of the Key to the City Award was Tim Wright for creating the Local's Night. The May recipient was voted on and will be revealed at a later date. Committee approved this recipient by unanimous vote.

B. DOING IT IN THE ZIP CODE

Discussion on this agenda item moved to the next scheduled meeting

C. ARE YOU GOOD TO GO?

Mayor Kennon will start visiting restaurant employees prior to peak season. John Brunick is handling details on this item.

D. HAUNTED HAYRIDE – THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 10/29 AND 10/30

The OBBC has received a request to spearhead the skits for the 2009 Haunted Hayride. More discussion on this item in future meetings.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

A. THANK YOU FOR HELP WITH TOWN HALL MEETING

The Town Hall meeting was a great success. We had 354 people present at 6:30 PM.

B. SET MEETINGS FOR THE REST OF 2009/STEERING AND GENERAL

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 23, 2009 at 3pm.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made (Wright/Peterson) to adjourn. Vote unanimous in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted May 25, 2009.

Patricia L. Link
Secretary
Orange Beach Business Council