

**Business Roundtable (BR)  
May 8, 2018  
Acorn Room**

**Summary Notes**

**Call to Order** by Ping Fang at 8:03 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Colleen Andersen, Brian Berman, Cheri Blessing, Ping Fang, Tyson Marshall, and Tom Powell

**Absent:** John Bounds, Aaron Kitzman, and Greg Monterrosa

**Staff:** Haider Alawami, Economic Development Manager; Rosie Ornelas, Economic Development Analyst, and Alisa Lacy, Customer Relations Assistant

**Others**

**Present:** Adam Haverstock, Director of Governmental Affairs and Tourism, Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Haider began the meeting discussing continuing the Business Roundtable Committee and the motivation. Committee members requested more guidance/parameters on what is expected of the Committee. There haven't been many updates with the subcommittees. It was suggested to, perhaps, have meetings only when there are updates. It was also suggested to narrow down the four subcommittees into two subcommittees. Haider suggested (1) Economic Development and (2) Signage/Development and Planning, as the two possible subcommittees.

Committee members also suggested creating a survey to find out the most pressing issues/challenges that City businesses are facing, perhaps utilizing the Chamber of Commerce mixers as a venue, or online polling.

It was recommended by committee members to create a business packet for small businesses. Rosie (the new Economic Development Analyst) is working on materials to assist prospective business owners who are interested in starting a business in the City.

Adam Haverstock from the Chamber of Commerce and the Conejo Valley Tourism Improvement District discussed a few items:

- a. The Chamber is presenting a trip to Ireland.
- b. He passed around the current issue of Conejo View Magazine, which is the Beer Issue (emerging industry in Thousand Oaks and nationwide).
- c. The Chamber has launched their new website, which is now mobile responsive.
- d. The tourism industry, hotel revenue (transient occupancy tax) is up 6.2% from this time last year for the Conejo Valley.
- e. The Conejo Valley Tourism Improvement District (CVTID) is partnering up with the Oak Heart Country Music Festival, which is expected to bring about 8,500 people to the event.
- f. Amgen Tour of California is next week, and will be taking place in Ventura County. The Chamber will have a presence at 2 of the local stages.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

### A. Economic Development/Small Business Support

- a. Colleen Andersen reported that she had reached out to the head of curriculum at CVUSD to work on creating entrepreneurship clubs. She stated the meeting went well, but hasn't been able to connect since that initial meeting. Colleen also recommended looking into new internet providers for the City, such as Google. Haider will get back to her with the staff member who does Franchise Agreements in the City to further discuss and research.

No other subcommittee reports were given at this meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 9:10 a.m. to Tuesday, July 10, 2018, in the Acorn Room.

