

The Board of Directors



Denzil Scheller
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2010 Officers

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Denzil Scheller, The Venetian Theatre & Bistro

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Vice Chair – Membership

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Vice Chair - Public Policy

Les Davis, Lithtex Printing

Chamber President

Deanna Palm

Chamber Directors

Morgan Anderson – Intel Corp.

Doug Barrett –

Cascade Technical Services

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Cece Clitheroe – Tuality Healthcare

Matt Crile –

Windermere/Baldwin Properties LLC

Sarah Hopkins-Powell –

Pacific University

Dick Inukai – Dick's Country Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge

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West Coast Bank

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Heidi Tate – Rodgers Instruments

Renee M. Willer – Verizon Northwest

Ex Officios/Advisory Directors

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Kathryn Harrington, Metro Councilor

Jerralynn Ness,

Executive Director,
Community Action Organization

Mike Scott,

Superintendent, Hillsboro School District 1J

Jerry W. Willey, Mayor, City of Hillsboro

Standing Up for Business

After a pleasant and seamless leadership transition which I attribute to extraordinary staff and a high level of sophistication in the Hillsboro Chamber Board, it has convinced me that we are the most vibrant chamber in the state. Celebrating our 115th birthday is exciting but, admittedly, a bit intimidating. So many great leaders of the past have left their fingerprints on this organization and ultimately our community. We are privileged to continue their strength of leadership and traditions of involvement and advocacy.

During 2009, this chamber definitely realized its goal of Standing Up for Business. We have numerous accomplishments which exemplify our willingness to not only take on significant challenges but to do so knowing that some might disagree with our decisions.

Far and away our largest challenge we have faced is the urban/rural reserves process. This will highly impact future generations more than ours. The Hillsboro Chamber has been involved with this process since the beginning and will see if come to conclusion this March. Determining areas that will be urbanized and those that will remain rural for at least the next forty years will have huge implications for our community. As we have stated before, quality of life begins with a job and our most important job right now is ensuring that we have provided adequate opportunities for industry to grow, expand and relocate to Hillsboro.

Another challenge has been our budget. We are a business, and like any other, we have had to be nimble in adjusting to a deteriorated economy. We are, however, in a solid financial position with adequate reserves, but this year has definitely been challenging. This year, we reduced our budget by 10%, and that is without losing any staff positions which would have most likely eroded the quality of our services. We are grateful for the continued support of our members and know that 2010 will still be a challenge but the struggles that we faced together in 2009 will make us stronger and more formidable going forward.

We have maintained and enhanced the quality of our partnership with the City of Hillsboro and its largely new leadership. Going forward, this will be essential as we work to provide a business climate that will allow the creation and retention of jobs in Hillsboro.

While the economy throughout the state and nation suffers, in Hillsboro, we are in an enviable position compared to other communities. That is certainly a great start to the New Year. ☪

2009 "Standing Up for Business" Accomplishments

- ⇒ Saved Hillsboro area businesses 64% on Transportation Utility Fee (TUF) by providing an alternative funding plan (example: original TUF proposal—your business billed \$34/mth.; negotiated rate \$12.24/mth. or \$261.12/year savings)
- ⇒ Actively participated in the Urban & Rural Reserves process developed by Metro to ensure that Hillsboro has adequate industrial land to grow jobs now and in the future
- ⇒ Provided the voice of the business community delivering testimony to the City of Hillsboro, Washington County and Metro governmental agencies on a variety of issues impacting Hillsboro businesses
- ⇒ Led efforts to ensure that voters had an opportunity to weigh-in on two tax increases passed by Oregon legislators
- ⇒ Created a unique and strategic partnership with SCORE to provide Hillsboro Chamber members valuable one-on-one counseling and business education
- ⇒ Launched "Thank Hillsboro It's Friday" lunch program designed to bring more business to local restaurants
- ⇒ Continually championed Buy Local, Buy Hillsboro to assist our local small businesses
- ⇒ Focused on creating relevant educational programs for our business members that offer information and ideas about how to weather our economic downturn

Chamber Staff



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2010: *Looking Forward*

There is much anticipation as we welcome 2010. The Hillsboro Chamber is celebrating our 115th year of serving the Hillsboro business community. We have had great successes and have been challenged like we never thought possible, yet we still stand stronger today than at any point in our history.

As we celebrate this significant anniversary, it's important to reflect on the path that we have traveled. Past Board Chair Grant Johnson memorized the chamber's history at our 100 year mark and recounted the many years of advocacy for issues important to the business community

and our high quality of life. I am proud to be a part of an organization that has a long, rich history of standing up for business.

That strong tradition will continue stronger than ever this year. Our 2010 agenda is very strategic and focused on growth. Last year's difficult economic situation impacted our organization and our budget as well. The heart of our efforts will be around rebuilding our business base. We lost business members due to many closures and downsizing. It's important for us to have a strong base of business support and we believe 2010 could be a banner year for membership growth. We are a strong organization that has done a stellar job standing up for business. Our reputation is second to none and our involvement and engagement in the issues that are important to the bottom line of businesses has been unwavering.

In 2010, you'll also see our first year of involvement in candidate endorsements. A more complete story is included in our January edition of our newsletter, *Business Advocate*. I encourage you to read more and stay tuned for what will be a very exciting political process this year.

Ensuring that Hillsboro stays competitive and affordable for business growth, and expansion is paramount to achieve the recovery we need. Know that your Hillsboro Chamber is poised to weigh-in on important issues and decisions throughout the year to ensure we are able to compete on a national and global basis for valuable, badly needed jobs.

We appreciate your support and look forward to sharing a prosperous 2010 with you. ☪

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Back row (L to R): Polly Grant, Eileen Bailey, Ginny Sorenson, Courtney Freiburger, Lucy Warren, Ben Carlson, Deanna Palm, Darcey Edwards, Julie Wilson, Jon-Michael Kowertz, Suzanne Clark and Carol Hilsenkopf. Front row (L to R): Laura Baxter, Jaime Miranda and Iris Smith.