

St. Johns County Civic Roundtable
Minutes of Meeting
September 8, 2014

Location; St Augustine Airport Convention Center

President Rick Lofgren called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

Reading and approval of Minutes of August 11, 2014 Meeting. Motion to approve Doug Worth, Second, Verna Bacon.

Financial report; Current balance\$1,673.69

Ms. Rodriguez gave a brief history her background and of the Chamber, beginning in 1904 as Board of Trade thru today with 1126 members.

The St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce concentrates its efforts on continuously improving the business environment in St. Johns County. Serving the constituency through focusing on Economic **Development**, Business **Advocacy**, Member **Education** and Business **Promotion**. Ms Rodriguez gave examples of how the Chamber has worked in each area of focus, for example, *Advocacy*- they were instrumental in assisting the "Distillery" to establish their business. *Education*- the chamber has a course , Chamber 101, for its members, a Leadership St Johns Signature program. *Promotion*- thru marketing and advertising.

The chamber also has a Youth Leadership Program for Juniors in High school.

More information regarding the Chamber is available at:
<http://www.stjohnscountychamber.com/>

In other business:

Discussion was held regarding the Library Budget. Library expansion. The budget committee will continue to monitor this issue. There was some discussion regarding the Veteran's Administration relocation of their facilities and the impact their decision is having on the relocation of other County offices. **Jim Sabo of the Ponte Vedra Coalition discussed the PZA decision to allow the TPC Tour to make changes without proper or sufficient information. Mr Sabo stated the action sets a precedent.**

All developers are required to provide detailed information, yet the Tour's request was allowed without detailed information regarding their final plans. The question of the legality of the PZA decision is being pursued.

Jerry Cameron noted that only 16% of the registered voters came out to vote in the last election. Mary Khonke spoke about a parcel of land at the edge of the Guana preserve, the "Outpost" which has the potential to be developed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Tony Bosco