MINUTES

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE GREATER SOUTHWEST HOUSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Monday, January 5, 2004 11:40 a.m.-1:10 p.m.

Present:

- *Art Beane
- *Peter Cook, Chair
- *Arnold Goldberg
- *Nick Karakulko
- *Tristan MacAvery
- *Dick Myers
- *Michael Ryan
- *Moe Singh
- *Katherine Swarts, Secretary
- *Kevin Tucker
- *Sharon Williams
- *Cheryl Wise
- *Trish Wise, Chamber Staff

Chamber Publications:

- *The "Make the Most of Your Membership" booklet is almost ready for publication. Trish brought notes for final copyediting.
- *Cheryl will create a pdf file for the final text of the booklet. Art will look into options for putting the booklet on CD-ROM.
- *Mike suggested that the Committee look to outside sources—perhaps Chamber event speakers—in choosing topics for future booklets.

Chamber Website:

- *Cheryl brought a list of recommended changes for the website. One suggested change was to give more attention to the community at large.
- *The Committee debated at some length the feasibility of expecting a website portal to generate substantial income for the Chamber.

Business in a Bag:

- *The next Business in a Bag will be in February. Dick is in charge of the schedule.
- *The next Business in a Bag speaker has not yet been chosen. Suggested sources included Ergos Technology Partners and First Creative.
- *The Business in a Bag program will continue with its sales and marketing focus in 2004.
- *Possible future foci include human resources and information technology.
- *The Chamber had prepared official Business in a Bag advertising posters shortly before the last luncheon. Due to poor communications the posters were not displayed then, but they will be used at the next luncheon.

Monthly Programs:

- *The Committee reviewed the breakfast invitation template. The Chamber logo will be added before official distribution.
- *Kevin suggested Curt Tueffert (Master Sales Motivator) for the February breakfast speaker. Jim Hughes may be considered for April.
- *Many Chamber members are still displeased with the accommodations and parking at the monthly breakfast. However, no better deal has yet been found.
- *Kevin is in charge of revising the Mini-Trade Fair program.

Other:

- *Peter suggested including a member survey in the Chamber's membership renewal packet. In the past, responses to surveys have been extremely poor. Trish suggested making the questions more specific.
- *The next Committee meeting will be in the Chamber conference room, Monday, February 2, at 11:30 a.m.