

11/24/2020

Dear Daly City Colma Chamber of Commerce Members:

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!! BE SAFE AND STAY HEALTHY!

On Behalf of the Board of Directors, this Thanksgiving and through this Holiday Season, we want to share our genuine appreciation to our Members for their continued support. While 2020 has been a tumultuous year full of surprises, challenges and changes in both our organization, our lives and the World, we still have so much to be thankful for, most of all YOU! – our Membership. We're grateful for you and thank you for being part of our crazy journey this year.

We'd like to take this time to share some changes that have occurred since two very impactful events for our Chamber – first the unexpected loss of our CEO/President, Georgette Sarles, in March this year, followed immediately by massive closures and orders to Shelter in Place due to a Pandemic!

While, yes, it has been challenging for sure, and our Board and Organization have gone through changes as have most organizations, there have been some silver linings as well. We have a resilient and faithful Board of Directors and many Champions for the Chamber in our local businesses and government offices.

While it wasn't easy to see a clear path at times, because of our members and cheerleaders, we persevered – Thank you!

With Sincerest Regards from The Daly City/Colma Board of Directors

NOW – FOR SOME UPDATES AND NEWS TO SHARE:

Here's some of what has changed, some new info for contacting us, and we're happy to answer any questions you may have.

1. VIRTUAL OFFICE

In July we closed the physical office and took the organization "Virtual". This is still a work in progress as we learn the ins and outs of working virtually – as have many businesses this year! What this means:

- a. We let go of paid office staff but did keep one contracted, off-site helper (Allison Wilson). Allison still assists us with Chamber Duties, the Website, Member Outreach and many other duties. Because we no longer have regular staff or an office, your devoted "Volunteer" Board of Directors has taken on sharing and managing the administrative duties. Be kind to them as they all have full time jobs/businesses/families as well!
- b. Our current mailing address is [362 Gellert Blvd., Daly City, CA 94015](#). This was implemented as a temporary address but will remain until further notice. We'd greatly appreciate you updating your records accordingly. Keep in mind this is for MAIL only, it's not possible to drop into see the Chamber.

- c. We've updated our Website Address and the Website overall – this too is a Work in Progress and constantly changing. You can now find the Chamber website at www.DCCChamber.org.
- d. Our phone number remains 650-755-3900. Note – the phones are not manned by staff. Instead, there is a sophisticated Voicemail System that records all messages online and is monitored by Chamber Board Members so as not to miss important phone calls.
- e. The BEST WAY, however, to communicate with the Chamber Virtual Office is to EMAIL as at staff@dccchamber.org.
- f. Our Membership Directory is in process of being updated. We encourage all of you to be sure to email us with any updates to your organizations name, address, phone number, staff, email contact etc. Use staff@dccchamber.org for this.
- g. We have implemented the opportunity for our Paid Members to pay a small fee to “Advertise” on our Website and via an Email blast to the entire Membership. You can contact Allison at staff@dccchamber.org for more info on how to take advantage of this.
- h. As a new perk to Joining the Chamber, we've implemented a plan that Highlights with a Mini intro/commercial any newly joined Member(s).
- i. We have taken our Executive Committee and Regular Board Meetings Virtual on Zoom.
- j. We are encouraging Member Dues, Advertising Fees, etc. be paid via Credit Cards or Square Invoicing.
- k. We have begun to do a monthly Zoom “Happy Hour” Networking event. Our next event is tentatively planned for December 17th at 5pm but stay tuned for more info.

2. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- a. Let's start with some EXCITING news here!! Effective November 1, 2020, The Executive Committee unanimously voted to bring on Board FELICIA LEONG as our new VOLUNTARY CEO!
 Many of you will dearly remember Felicia and her never ending exuberance and enthusiasm for our Chamber. She was on our Chamber Staff for many years. She was our energizing bunny attending every event/function with clipboard in hand! We've all missed her greatly at our functions these past few years. Felicia has a wealth of knowledge about our organization's ins and outs, processes, fund raisers, relationships with members, local business and government and much, much more. We are THRILLED she has agreed to come on as an Unpaid Volunteer to help us reestablish, revitalize and grow our Chamber to it's former Glory! We can't wait to again do our favorite networking functions, ribbon cuttings, fundraisers, scholarships, impromptu Happy Hours, educational events and more. In the meantime – your Board has been brainstorming ways to do some of those events during a Pandemic and we invite any great ideas!
- b. As of this writing, your Executive Board is CEO: Felicia Leong, President: Rebecca C. Husted, 1st VP: Ross Sit, 2nd VP/CFO: Eleanor Serrato and Secretary: Marie Villarosa. With Immediate Past President and Consultant: John Hui.
- c. Board of Directors: This is going through some transition as some members have changed companies/careers and or moved out of the area and some we haven't heard from in a while. We hope to get a concrete “Working” Board in place in the new year. There are several positions open to Welcome New Board Members. Anyone interested in being part of this dynamic team – let us know. We welcome all interested to check things out.