

# Majuro Chamber of Commerce

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Meeting Minutes Regular Meeting

August 11, 2005 Jakaro Lanai Marshall Islands Resort

Meeting called to order by President Domnick at 12:10 p.m. With 41 members and guests present.

**Review of Minutes of July Meeting:** Not Available

**Guests:** Major Klein from Kwajalein Missile range introduced his guests from the range, USAKA staff. Dr. Kamal introduced the Majuro Medical Association Members. Ambassador Morris introduced the new Kwajalein Range Director.

**Presidents Report:** Guest speaker was supposed to talk about commercial loans available in Majuro. There are no commercial loans so, no speaker.

- Japan Airlines staff due into Majuro to do an inspection of the airport in anticipation of Charter flights from Tokyo.
- Mobil to deliver 3 months of fuel this week.
- NTA is attempting to renegotiate its loan with the U.S. in order to bid on the fiber optic cable
- Customs Dept has stated that all containers will be inspected at the container yard and not releases until they have cleared Customs at the container yard.
- Had a meeting with the Chief Secretary on Tax reform. Chamber Executive Committee to meet and discuss our position. There will be an executive retreat to discuss RMI economy.
- EZ Price Mart has donated Basketball and playground equipment to Uluga. Kommol Tata Neal Skinner and Staff.

**Correspondence:** All mail is on the table at the back. Mostly catalogs.

## Committee Reports

**Financial Report:** We currently have \$4881.44 in our account.

**Business and Trade:** Ambassador Morris stated that the USS Boxer will need community projects to work on while in port. Email **Tom Maus** if you have a project.

**Katina Peter** stated that the Handicraft people at the airport need help. Their sales are way down due to the high security. They need to get to the transit passengers to help sales. Please help us.

**Education:** Jack Niedenthal reported that the search committee for the College of the Marshall Islands has selected a President. We will announce the name very shortly.

**Environment: No report.**

**Tourism:** Bill Weza reported on the upcoming visit by the USS Boxer, which should prove to be a great boost to the economy in addition to the work they will do in the community. Japan Airlines site visit to review the facilities at the airport and make recommendations to their company. Air Nauru is doing well considering adding another leg. No date was named for this addition.

**Government Relations:** Jerry Kramer:

- Chamber has written a letter to David Cohen asking him to look into the plight of NTA and the fiber optic cable deal on Kwajalein.
- Another letter asking him look into how Exxon-Mobil is treating MEC and the Marshall Islands.
- There were no Ministers other than Minister of Finance and Chief Secretary that showed up to the Economic retreat.
- New Tax initiative schedule to be introduced at this years Nitijela session. Jerry suggested that the Chamber write a letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Chief Secretary thanking them for their openness to change.
- Containers Three offences for one company. Jerry elaborated on the container issue.
- An income tax proposal will make the tax go up.

**Communications:** Tommy DeBrum. NTA is testing the new cellular phone system this week. We expect the new system to be operational in September. The system is a GSM System with 900 band. **Fiber Optic;** all parties affiliated with the fiber optic system, Telcom. NTA, and FSM have recommended someone else install the cable system, not anyone of them.

**Health Committee:** Dr. Pinano stated that the smoking law is not effective must be enforced to a greater extent. Dr. Kamal stated that the Medical Association is pushing to enforce the seat belt law and need everyone's cooperation to make this work to save lives. The guests from Kwajalein offered their assistance.

**Financial Services: No Report**

**Special Projects: No report**

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** It got late no new business.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 pm

Minutes by Bill Weza  
For  
Secretary Don Hess