



## **CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES** **April 28, 2011**

**Stephen F. Austin Intercontinental Hotel, 11:45 am – 1:00 pm**

### **PRESIDENT REPORT – Chrissie Eastin**

Chrissie introduced herself as the current Chapter President and thanked James for his leadership last year. She then welcomed all of the guests and new members. Chrissie announced the incoming Officers and Committee Chairs as follows:

*Officers:*

President-Elect	Chris Sims
Immediate Past-President	James Cornell
Secretary	Tina Terrian
Treasurer	Diana Stangl

*Committee Chairs:*

Bar Relations	James Cornell
Business Partner Relations	Chris Bhamani
Community Relations	Shannon Athey-Briggs
Compensation/Benefits	Elaine Nielsen
Education/Program	Brenda Barnes
Membership	Shary Gonzalez
Newsletter	Rose Sullivan
Past Presidents Advisory Council	Brenda Barnes
Website	Barbara Mullen

Chrissie announced that the Chapter had purchased a Tiffany's Sterling Silver Starfish necklace for the FALA Silent Auction at this year's Annual Conference. She also let everyone know that there will be an online auction in addition to the auction in Orlando.

Chrissie announced that the Chapter had made a donation to the American Red Cross to aid our friends in New Zealand after the devastating earthquake in Christ Church.



Chrissie also reminded everyone of several upcoming events:

- Annual ALA Conference in Orlando, FL, May 15-17
- Region 3 & 4 Conference in Kansas City, MO, September 15-17
- Deadline for ALA Compensation and Benefits Survey is May 9, 2011
- Austin Chapter Retreat will be sometime in October with more information to come soon.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Community Relations Committee announced that they've reserved 20 spaces at the Capital Area Food Bank on Saturday, June 11th from 9:00 am - Noon. Participants will be inspecting, cleaning, sorting and boxing donations. Also, they are planning to work on the Urban Roots farm on a Saturday morning early this Fall. Shannon will send out information to the Chapter early next week.

Chris Bhamani, on behalf of the Business Partner Relations Committee, announced that we'll have a Spring Business Partner Meet & Greet on May 10 at Takoba on East 7th from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. Amanda Koplos added that we'd reveal our new Chapter logo at this event.

Brenda Barnes, on behalf of the Education and Programs Committee, announced upcoming luncheon topics including an HR Roundtable (May), personal safety issues (June) and social networking (July).

Barbara Mullen, on behalf of the Website Committee, announced that the website is close to completion and they hope to roll it out by the end of May.

## **LUNCHEON SPONSOR**

Chris Bhamani introduced Commercial Texas as our meeting sponsor this month and as our 2011 Platinum Sponsor. Commercial Texas was Founded in 1997 and built its reputation by delivering expert services to clients. Research, technology, finances and marketing campaigns are all critical, but a company succeeds because of its people. They developed strategic and financially advantageous real estate solutions through teamwork, knowledge-sharing, and by hiring only skilled professionals with top-flight area market expertise.

Their analytical approach, experience in transactional negotiations, and understanding of the Central Texas market provides clients with unmatched guidance in developing and structuring unique real estate solutions. Commercial Texas understands they don't grow unless their clients do. They treat their clients' goals as they do their own - with integrity and the highest professional standards.



## **SPEAKER**

Brenda Barnes introduced our speaker, Michael A. Kennedy, from Commercial Texas. Mike's role as President of Commercial Texas is not limited to managerial functions. Everyday he is on the frontlines creating value for the fiscal well-being of leading companies. Throughout his career, Mike has been recognized as one of the most active office leasing and sales brokers in the Austin area.

Mike is a graduate of the University of St. Thomas and the South Texas College of Law in Houston. He is an active office member of the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors (SIOR), a charter member and past president of the Austin Commercial Leasing Brokers Association (CLBA), and a member of the Real Estate Council of Austin (RECA), the Texas Bar Association, the Austin Bar Association and the Austin Chamber of Commerce.

Mike serves as President of the Zachary Scott Theatre Board and is a former Board of Trustees Member of the Austin Museum of Art (AMOA) and a Founding Fellow for the Austin Bar Association. He has contributed numerous times to the Annual Institute of Real Estate Management (IREM) Forecast Forum and has spoken at Austin Technology Council and Continuing Legal Education events. Mike is a frequently-quoted expert on commercial real estate trends in Austin and has published numerous articles.

Mr. Kennedy spoke on the leasing market in Austin and what development is on the horizon in the downtown Austin area.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00.

