

Round Top Area Chamber of Commerce By-Laws Update

Introduction:

- The Chamber of Commerce By-laws define the purpose of the Chamber and how it will work – membership, leadership, meetings, processes, etc.
- Periodic reviews and updates are appropriate to ensure the guidelines are effective and addresses current operating conditions
- Updates to the by-laws require a majority approval by Chamber members, voting in person or electronically

Proposed Updates Address:

- Chamber Board can number from 7 to 9, versus a requirement for 9 (recognizes challenges of staffing the Board)
- Allows the Board the right to deny a membership application; organization denied can request a review meeting to understand reasoning (allows Board to ensure that new businesses are aligned with purpose of Chamber and vision for the community)
- New members who join during the year can pay pro-rated dues for the first year (encourages new members to join as they open for business)
- Requires the Board to hold at least one annual meeting of the full Chamber (to ensure communications and transparency)
- Provides process for members who have been dropped from the rolls for lack of dues payment or other issues to apply for reinstatement of membership (recognizes the challenging business environment and encourages ongoing Chamber participation).

The Voting Process:

- Updated By-laws, with changes highlighted, to be distributed:
 - Available in hardcopy today
 - Will be emailed to Chamber members
 - Will be posted on Chamber website
- One month review and comment period provided
- Vote will be requested by email; results will be communicated in July Chamber Board meeting and by email to members.