

July 2016:

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“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart” ~ Elizabeth Andrew

The last two years, Denise Smith has provided great leadership, vision, and passion to the Easton Area Chamber, its Board of Directors, and the 800 Chamber members within the greater Easton area. We want to take this month’s *Connections* article (we actually hijacked it, but we didn’t think Denise would mind J), to sincerely thank her for dedicating her heart **and** time to our Easton Chamber team. In addition to her full-time leadership role at the State Theatre Center for the Arts where she is responsible for development duties, Denise has led our team to noteworthy successes; including, significant sponsorship and attendance growth at all of our major events, the creation and enhancement of membership outreach programs, recruitment of dynamic new board and committee leaders representing diverse sectors of our business community, representation on outside regional boards and committees advocating a pro-business agenda, and strengthening membership enrollment and retention efforts through new and strategic partnerships. Individually and cooperatively, each of these successes has significantly strengthened our organizations and helped our businesses thrive.

A volunteer leadership position isn’t an easy commitment to make given the hustle and bustle associated with professional and personal obligations; however, we are forever grateful for the tremendous commitment Denise made to our Chamber upon acceptance of the Chair position. We wouldn’t be where we are today if it weren’t for her actions inspiring us to simply do more and do it well to benefit our membership and the Easton community.

Denise, ***thank you*** for always demonstrating what was possible, allowing us to take risks and encouraging us to persistently progress as an organization. We appreciate you! ~ Alison Pickel, Laurie Colvin, and the EACC Board