

**Burlington Chamber of Commerce
Membership Meeting Minutes
Greenhouse Tavern, Burlington CT
Thursday, January 21, 2016**

- I. Call to Order – 12:05 pm
- II. Attendance
 - a. Peter Bevivino - Chair (President), Tom Martin (Vice-President), Rich Browning (Treasurer), Jerry Burns (Secretary), Mike Scheidel (Director), Chris Borda (Director), Jill Russell (Director), JoAnn Ryan (President & CEO, Northwest Chamber of Commerce), Ted Shafer (Burlington First Selectman), Martin Peabody (member), Kerry Brash (member), Mike Brannigan (member), Chris Birk (member), Colleen Ververis (member), Christian Gombos (meeting host, guest)
- III. Past Minutes
 - a. Meeting minutes from November 5, 2015 for membership and Board reviewed; Rich B. motioned to accept as written, Jerry B. 2nd; All in Favor
- IV. Treasurer Report
 - a. Rich B. presented bank deposit amount of \$5,806.00 and said no outstanding payables to the Chamber.
 - b. The amount is made up mostly of dues and a small residual.
 - c. Kerry B. motioned to accept the report, Jerry B. 2nd; All in Favor
- V. Old Business – None
- VI. New Business
 - a. Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce affiliate membership – Joanne Ryan, CEO & President of the NWCC attended to welcome the Burlington Chamber and to give an overview of their Chamber and how they can help Burlington businesses.
 - i. Membership literature was shared and programs available explained
 - ii. Discussed the Northwest Economic Development Corporation creation due to our unique diversity in this region as compared to Waterbury and Hartford. Main goal is to maintain focus in the Legislature for our region.
 - iii. Mentioned the creation of a Burlington Advisory Council to meet at least once a month to touch base with our Chamber and keep things moving forward.
 - b. Membership Meeting Schedule Discussion
 - i. Consensus of Board and members present to leave it at 12 noon meeting time the 3rd Thursday of the month.
 - ii. Locations will be needed to host this event.
 - c. Streetscape Light Pole Banner Advertising Discussion
 - i. Jerry B. presented from his Town of Burlington Marketing Committee an idea for business sponsorship of the flags on the new streetscape light poles.
 - ii. The consensus was “Yes” from the members present and asked Jerry B. to go back to his committee to get specs and options.
 - d. Business After Hours to be held Wednesday, April 6th from 5 pm to 7 pm

- i. Advanced Physical Therapy expressed interest in hosting and YES Fitness would like to partner on this event. Peter B. will help with logistics and sponsorship needs.
 - ii. Peter B. said goal is to have a minimum of 3 events like this in Burlington and that doing it for a charitable cause would be even better.
 - iii. Let Peter B. or any Chamber Board member know if you would like to host an event this year.
 - iv. Discussion on ways to partner up to defray the cost of sponsoring an event, especially for a home-based business.
 - e. Winter Carnival
 - i. Discussion on continuing support that Mike S. and Tom M. have done over the years. It is a Town event at Nassahegan Field with efforts by Safe Harbor as well as the Chamber. Volunteers would be appreciated.
 - f. Rebranding/Branding
 - i. Too large a topic for this type of meeting, Jerry B. proposed forming a small sub-committee of the Board and interested parties for these topics. Kerry B. expressed interest in assisting.
 - g. Sign – General update from Peter B., but still exploring options.
- VII. Open Forum
 - a. Nothing brought forward
- VIII. Adjourn – 1:01 pm