

SUPPORT BUSINESSES
BURLINGTON
TOWN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Membership Meeting Minutes
Elton Tavern, Burlington CT
Thursday, March 17, 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), Chris Borda (Director), Jill Russell (Director), Cindy Scovill (President, Central CT Chamber of Commerce), Ted Shafer (Burlington First Selectman), Marie Simard (Guest, LSM Scholarship), Kerry Brash (Member), Dave Onofrio (Guest, Farmington Bank), Christine Worley (member), Patty Hannon (Member), John Kirschner (Guest), Dwight Harris (Member)
- III. Past Minutes
 - a. Meeting minutes from February 18, 2016 reviewed; Tom M. motioned to accept as written, Rich B. 2nd; All in Favor
- IV. Treasurer Report
 - a. Rich B. presented bank deposit amount of \$10,662.76, mostly up from membership renewals and Banner Ad campaign.
 - b. \$6,425 of Dues receivable projected through 2016 2nd Cycle.
 - c. Peter B. motioned to accept the report, Tom M. 2nd; All in Favor
- V. Old Business
 - a. Burlington Business After Hours
 - i. Monday, April 4th from 5 pm to 7 pm.
 - ii. Advanced Physical Therapy will host the event with co-sponsors Y.E.S. Fitness and KC Dubliner.
 - iii. Kerry B. will do an onsite wine tasting and will donate all the wine.
 - iv. Central CT Chamber has the information for promotion
 - v. LSM Crew team will provide the Plinko board and asked for prize donations to hand out during the event.
- VI. New Business
 - a. Marie Simard of the LSM Scholarship Committee gave an overview of the program, how the application process works, history of support from various organizations and asked that our Chamber and membership consider a scholarship this year.
 - i. This program has been in existence for 53 years and has donated over \$600,000 towards college needs. All the money comes from donors
 - ii. Many questions and discussion from attendees

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- iii. Marie thanked us for the time and left, where discussion continued amongst attendees.
 1. Much discussion on making sure kids in the trade programs and going to schools like Oliver Wolcott Tech.
 2. Jerry B. said we have a short-term decision to do a LSM scholarship for their current 2016 needs and a long-term decision to look at getting eligibility to those living in Burlington and going to trade schools via the Region 10 affiliations. The consensus this was a good approach now.
 3. Jerry B. motion: "To provide a \$500 scholarship to the LSM Scholarship Fund via current Chamber funds and give membership time to replenish or add to funds for future scholarship awards by our Chamber."; Peter B. 2nd, All in Favor
- b. United Way Day of Caring, May 20th – Ted Shafer presented this great day to the Chamber to see if we can get many of our members to join others in cleaning up the Rails to Trails path in town.
 - i. Plan is to meet at 9:00 am in the main lot, have breakfast, work until 12 noon, have lunch and leave.
 - ii. The Town of Burlington employees will provide the food.
 - iii. This is a light cleanup and will be a community event.
 - iv. The following month, there will be an appreciation day at a Bristol Blues baseball game located at Muzzy Field, Bristol CT.
 - v. Ted asked that we get an RSVP for food preparation purposes.
- c. Read Aloud Day, May 6th at Lake Garda School
 - i. Our Chamber has participated in this event for many years by supplying books for the children and providing volunteers to read.
 - ii. The event is from 8:45 am until 11 am
 - iii. Motion by Peter B. to donate \$350, Jerry B. 2nd; All in Favor
- d. Burlington Center Light Pole Banner Advertising Program
 - i. Jerry B. shared that 18 of the 20 banners have been sold with the Chamber taking the last 2 spots for their marketing logo.
 - ii. Will have samples to share for approval by all companies participating soon and they should be up on April 1st.
- e. Annual Dinner
 - i. Peter B. said we will hold the dinner in town and the hope at a member location.

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- ii. Peter B. shared that he wants to have nominees introduced by the nominee, if possible. People liked that idea, will flesh it out as we draw closer.
 - iii. When/Where was discussed and ideas of how other Chambers have done this.
 - iv. KC Dubliner is a possibility on Tuesday, May 24th.
 - v. Ted S. said we should consider a guest speaker and shared a potential candidate.
 - vi. Space will be limited, so important to stress RSVP early.
 - f. Rebranding/Branding
 - i. Logo
 - 1. We looked over the first draft of potential logo designs for the Burlington Chamber of Commerce.
 - 2. Lengthy discussion and ideas were shared.
 - a. More work to be done on official logo, but we liked the marketing logo with the exception of the tagline. Jerry B. will work with Tod Kallenbach to make changes for the banner.
- VII. Adjourn – 1:12 pm