



BURLINGTON
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

Membership Meeting Minutes
Elton Tavern, Burlington CT
Thursday, January 18, 2017

- I. Call to Order – 8:04 am
- II. Attendance
 - a. Peter Bevivino - Chair (President), Tom Martin (Vice-President), Rich Browning (Treasurer), Jerry Burns (Secretary), Chris Borda (Director), Jill Russell (Director), Colleen Ververis (Director)
- III. Past Minutes – Reviewed December 15, 2016 Meeting minutes. Rich B. motioned to accept as written, Colleen V. 2nd, All in Favor.
- IV. Treasurer Report
 - a. Bank deposit amount of \$6,416.18
 - b. Two checks are outstanding: a \$2,000 check to the Central Connecticut Chambers of Commerce for our affiliation support and our Banner Ads for \$425.40.
 - c. We will be getting the Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce affiliate invoice soon.
 - d. We have collected \$3,025.00 towards 2017 dues and have \$4,150.00 outstanding.
 - e. Jerry B. motioned to accept as is; Chris B. 2nd; All in Favor
- V. Old Business
 - a. Tavern Day was officially transitioned to the Town and the Town Marketing Committee members who volunteered to lead this endeavor.
 - b. Chamber offered at the January 11th meeting, if asked, to find sponsors, run the business expo and share out tents.
- VI. New Business
 - a. No events planned for 1Q17
 - i. Discussion on identifying member businesses who may be able to host such an event such as The Swimming Pool store, Crescent Manufacturing or the businesses in the Rivco Construction facility.
 - b. Jerry B. shared that the SBA would like to do free seminars and we are required to do at least 4 Constant Contact events for the free email program.
 - c. Members encouraged to share their successes, activities and other promotions through the Chamber News feed/Facebook page.
 - i. Just let the Secretary know what you want to say or promote; If to advertising, then we'll address but looking for things like event hosting, promotions, charitable doings, etc.
 - d. Co-op Print Advertising



BURLINGTON
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

- i. Recapped last month's meeting with Rick Goulet and it was agreed that will not pursue until there is a demand to fill the material.
- e. Jerry B. shared an idea to have a Help Wanted/Needed category for the News feed. Was received well and will see if we can get that going to help our member businesses as well as individuals in our community looking for work.
- f. Annual Dinner Planning
 - i. Kerry Brash expressed interest in helping to Peter B.
 - ii. We turned away 12 people who wanted to attend last year at KC Dubliner Grille & Pub due to limited space.
 - iii. Discussed other options like Torrington's Five Point Gallery (where the NW CT Chamber holiday party was) or Chatterly's Banquet Hall.
 - 1. After discussion, it was felt that we need to keep in town to keep promoting our active Chamber and it is a good problem to have it maxed out.
 - iv. Discussed Sponsorship levels
 - 1. Perhaps one or more for the Happy Hour?
 - 2. For the Raffle Prizes
 - v. Awards – Need to Determine what we will be doing and acquire the plaques.
 - vi. Estimated date is Tuesday, May 9th
 - vii. Need to start promoting in March/April
- g. Chamber Sign
 - i. Noted there are open times for messages and to make request via SignRequest@burlingtonctchamber.org.
- h. Central CT Chamber has a Legislative Action Committee formed that Peter B. is on representing our Chamber.
- i. Jerry B. updated the Banner Program
 - i. Still not getting great participation, but enough to keep it going as it will pay for things like Business After Hours, Lunch Meetings, etc.
- j. Chamber Window Clings
 - i. They have arrived, so we will get out to Membership or you can make request of Peter B. for pick up.
- k. Membership Drive
 - i. We have lost several members in 2016 and there are still outstanding invoices for 2017, so we anticipate a few more.
 - ii. Need to create a "What has Chamber done for Members" letter
 - 1. Ask each member to think of one non-member business to send this to.



BURLINGTON
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

2. If we can get 1 business each to join, our finances will be in excellent shape and we'll have new energy to continue the revitalization of our Burlington Chamber of Commerce in 2017 and beyond.

VII. Adjourn – Motion Jerry B., Chris B. 2nd, All in Favor – 9:03 am

Next Meeting – Thursday, February 16, 2017 @ 12:00 pm at the Elton Tavern, Burlington CT