



**BURLINGTON**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

**Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**Elton Tavern, Burlington CT**  
**Thursday, September 21, 2017**

- I. Call to Order – 12:03 pm
- II. Attendance
  - a. Peter Bevivino – Chair (President), Rich Browning (Treasurer), Jerry Burns (Secretary), Chris Borda (Director), Colleen Ververis (Director), Kerry Brash (Member), Marjorie Bowen (Member), Diana Lepore (Member)
- III. Past Minutes
  - a. July 20, 2017 reviewed; Kerry B. motioned to accept as-is, Collen V. 2<sup>nd</sup>, All in Favor.
- IV. Treasurer Report
  - a. Bank balance of \$8,414.53 with no major expenditures expected as of this report.
  - b. New/Renewed/Rejoined Members
    - i. County Wide Mechanical Services (New)
    - ii. BantamWesson (New)
    - iii. Bristol Hospital Multi-Specialty – Dr. Li Zhu (Rejoined)
  - c. July renewal cycle saw 20 renewals with 6 still outstanding
    - i. Emails and letters in the mail to the 6 remaining
  - d. Recognized the importance of our 13 Chamber Members who were Tavern Day sponsors:
    1. Farmington Bank
    2. Finnegans Tavern
    3. Torrington Savings Bank
    4. eBurns Marketing Group
    5. K Brash & Associates
    6. Burlington Insurance Agency
    7. Donna Groccia-Lubik, CPA, EA
    8. West Wind Realty
    9. Andrews-Perry Construction
    10. Burlington-Delfino Septic
    11. Rivco Construction
    12. Advanced Physical Therapy
    13. R and R Massage & Day Spa
  - e. Jerry B. motioned to accept, Peter B. 2<sup>nd</sup>; All in Favor
- V. Old Business - None
- VI. New Business
  - a. Peter B. shared to those present what happened to our VP, Tom Martin.



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- i. Colleen V. shared updated information as well, since Tom's wife is employed at Irongate.
  - ii. Jerry B. shared that the newsletter has a 'Take them a Meal' link so the family has meals several nights during the week as they transition from hospital to home care.
  - iii. Jerry B. shared he talked with the Lions Club president to find out what plans there may be for a fundraiser to help with the staggering healthcare costs. All in the planning stages now, but the Chamber will be at the ready to promote and help in any way possible.
- b. Truck-or-Treat
  - i. Cancelled this year as nobody can fill Tom's shoes when it comes to getting the participant vehicles in such a short time. Will do it next year!
- c. Tavern Day
  - i. Jerry B. gave update from his role as Tavern Day co-chair for the Town Marketing Committee. Can't thank the 13 Chamber sponsors enough for their support that made Tavern Day a possibility.
  - ii. From all reports, this year's Tavern Day feedback was overwhelmingly positive. The weather was warm and sunny, which helped bring more to the festival.
- d. Chamber Sign Repair Plan
  - i. Peter B. shared why the current tracks are warping and that Dwight & DJ Harris had no luck trying to cut oval screw slots to help alleviate the expansion/constriction of the tracks.
  - ii. The sign is not easy to setup due to letters falling in multiple spots and Mike Branagan uses scotch tape to hold them up.
  - iii. Jerry B. got a quote from Write Way Signs to get the letter tracks fixed for all the sun and weather our board gets.
    1. They know what we are going through and said they can give us a weather ready letter track that uses an adhesive method.
    2. The quote was for \$670 to \$750 for take down from building, repair in shop and replacement.
  - iv. Peter B. called for a vote to do the necessary letter track repairs with Write Way Signs for no more than \$750.00 (pre-tax).
    1. Kerry B. motioned to accept, Rich B. 2<sup>nd</sup>; All in Favor
- e. Chamber Building
  - i. Peter B. shared the news that Scott Tharau's Town crew were able to clean up the Chamber Building, get the tents organized with 2 per barrel, purchased new bungee cords to hold the tops on and other cleanup activities.



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- ii. They asked that anyone using the tents look at the new laminated instructions and to go slow with take down and re-pack the barrels as they were found.
    - iii. Our entire Board is so grateful for this as we did not know they were going to take the initiative on. Jerry B. mentioned to Peter B. that we would have to do what they accomplished a month earlier. Saved us a major project!
  - f. Multi-Chamber Event
    - i. Larson's Garden Center wants to do and Peter B. is asking for a firm date we can start planning to.
  - g. Board of Director
    - i. There is an open position on the Board of Directors with Mike Scheidel stepping down earlier this year. The plan for filling this vacancy will be:
      - 1. Put out a call via the newsletter for candidates who wish to be a Director.
      - 2. Peter B. will call a Board Meeting for a formal vote from our pool of candidates. If a physical meeting is not possible, then we'll do an email vote.
  - h. Chamber News & Updates
    - i. Northwest CT Chamber of Commerce – The "Over the Edge" was very successful and it is expected that the 3 non-profits (including the Chamber) will have raised \$19k or more.
    - ii. Central CT Chambers of Commerce
      - 1. Grand Reopening is September 26<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm
      - 2. October 18<sup>th</sup> Business Forum at the Farmington Gardens.
- VII. Open Forum
  - a. Rich B. brought up that we need to have a more formal New Member Welcome letter with Chamber cling
    - i. Jerry B. will alter the recent Annual Dinner letter for this purpose, which was the original intent of that letter.
- VIII. Adjourn – Motion Peter B., Jerry B. 2<sup>nd</sup>, All in Favor – 12:56 pm

**Next Meeting – Thursday, October 19, 2017 @ 12:00 pm at West Wind Realty, Burlington CT**