



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020 – 11:15 AM
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

Board Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order: 11:15 AM by Kerry Brash
- II. Attendance: Kerry Brash – President, Richard Browning- Treasurer, Carla DuBois- Secretary, Chris Borda- Board Member, John Seagrave- Board Member, David Shephard- Board Member, Diana Lepore- Board Member, Colleen Ververis
- III. Agenda: Discussion on whether to fully merge with the Central CT Chamber of Commerce open discussion comments:
 - a. The Avon and Canton Chambers of Commerce recently merged
 - b. The Farmington Chamber of Commerce merged with the Central CT Chamber
 - c. Kerry mentioned that if we merged with the Central CT Chamber of Commerce, we would get 1 seat on the Central CT board and the Burlington Chamber board would be disbanded after decisions regarding what to do with the remaining bank account balance had been decided.
 - d. Our current agreement with the Central CT Chamber of Commerce is to host 1 chamber event in the Town of Burlington per quarter. Would that still occur? Kerry is to investigate this if we go forward.
 - e. Discussion on whether membership fees would change. Something that needs to be investigated and discussed. Currently we pay a yearly fee to be an associated member.
- IV. Board Comments on possible merger with the Central CT Chamber
 - a. Concerns about losing the community good will events that occur throughout the year (Christmas trees, food initiative, toy drive, etc.).
 - b. Does the cost of membership stay the same or change?
 - c. What added value is provided that we don't currently have as an associate member?
 - d. Concerns about Burlington businesses not renewing or joining if we move to a larger Chamber.
 - e. Giving up control/uniqueness
 - f. Finding added value programs to promote and help businesses grow
 - g. Does the Central CT Chamber have enough staff to work on growing Burlington business Chamber numbers?
- V. Decision for 2021: Continue as the Burlington Chamber and join the Central CT Chamber as an Associate member for 1 more year and then re-evaluate.
- VI. Motion to close: 12:54 PM Meeting adjourned.