



THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 – NOON
MEMBER MEETING MINUTES - AT THE TAVERN

- I. Call to Order at 12:06 PM by Kerry Brash
- II. Attendance: Kerry Brash – President, Rich Browning – Board Member, Jade Athas – Treasurer, Jordan Sanford – Secretary, Kristina Mozzicato – Member, John Seagrave – Member, Cindy Bombard – President, Central CT Chamber, Doug Thompson – First Selectmen
- III. Minutes - skipping until next month
- IV. Treasurers Report: Rich Browning 1st motion, John Haddad 2nd motion
 - a) Bank Balance = \$11,307.74
 - b) Expenses since last report (7/21/2022):
 - \$128.84 Web Hosting (\$58.48), Eversource (\$45.11), QuickBooks (\$25.25)
 - \$22.44 - Pizza and Salad for July Member Meeting
 - \$1,250 to Central CT Chamber for Q3 Affiliate Invoice
 - c) Credits since last report (07/21/22):
 - \$1217.46 dues collected since last report
 - \$250.00 Tavern Day Sponsorship – Jade Athas, Realtor
 - \$100.00 Tavern Day Sponsorship – Vince Lambri Tax Services
 - d) Receivables:
 - Estimated \$930 outstanding for July 1 due date (as of 8/18/2022)
 - Follow up question: Do we need to maintain Dropbox Cost \$127.49 annual fee? Rebate of \$25.50 (What is this for?)
 - Dropbox - Do we still need it?
 - Does Margie use it??
 - Could we replace with Google Drive?
- V. Current Business
 - 1) Town Selectman, Doug Thompson
 - a) Town Update:
 - Tavern Day discussion – biggest event for the town
 - FD is celebrating 75th anniversary!
 - Central Business District
 - Johnny Cake Mt Park – clarification meeting to clear up misunderstandings regarding sports field location
 - Grant Writer is going to be hired to assist with opportunities for the park
 - Library Lane – first business ribbon cutting was 7/29!
 - Applied for a half million-dollar steep grant to create the sidewalk – application was submitted under the deadline
 - Connect potential new grant writer with the grand writer in Bristol
 - Reallocated funds for a new intersection

- Added funds into reserves – one project on the horizon is a turn lane at the intersection
 - Housing plan will be to prep more affordable housing and commercial development
 - b) Newsletter – form committee
 - Mirror “Explorefarmington.com”? done by Rose, who is the Economic Developer
 - Individuals for the committee
 - Judy volunteered
 - Kerry volunteered
 - Call Todd to discuss further
 - Cindy volunteered
 - Jordan volunteered
 - Format?
 - Town residents would need to go online to sign up for emails
 - Budget was through the Town of Farmington
 - Requested proposals from different marketing firms – was an investment to create the portal for the town
 - Sponsors?
 - Can Parks & Rec help with resources?
 - c) Town Meeting tonight to discuss local agreements
- 2) Cindy Bombard
 - a) Meeting with the Gov – wanted to check in and see what was “up” in each meeting
 - State of CT is on the bottom of the totem pole based on housing growth – equal to Georgia
 - A lot of towns have put land trusts in place to prevent new housing growth – happening a lot in Fairfield County areas
 - Discussed workforce issues
 - International traveling to draw business into Connecticut
 - b) New Leads Group with the Chamber
 - Held at Tunxis Career Center
 - i. Leads group currently on wait list
 - Morning Jolt – 3rd Wednesday of every month
 - Leads Group
 - Business After Hours
 - Trying to avoid duplication of programs
 - c) Largest Golf Tournament – Grossed \$47,000
 - 3rd year that it has been done
 - d) Looking for nominations for 40 under 40
 - Young leadership program
 - e) Working on a Small Business Award for the Holiday to recognize
 - f) Plainville Chamber has merged officially
 - g) Bristol Works – training program
 - Will affect the surrounding communities
 - \$2.4 Million dollar grant for the four sectors
 - Creating a 501C3
 - Will have a contract with the city by the end of the month
- 3) New Board and Officers
 - a) Committee Chairs – Membership, Events, Marketing, Newsletter
 - Rich has taken charge of the membership committee

- i. Meeting lined up for the next member meeting in September
- ii. John collected an updated list from the tax assessor (300-400 business registered to the town of Burlington) – list did NOT include emails though
- iii. Potential mailings for home businesses – email in conjunction with a flyer
 - Member Chamber Social / Member and Future Member Open House?
 - Social Media

VI. Membership – Rich

a) New Members, Outreach & Retention

a. Charles from Evening Sky

- i. Send a “girls date” to go discuss with him

a. Event Committee - Kerry

i. Tavern Day

- 1. John Parente
- 2. We are fully booked!
- 3. Can still accept sponsors
- 4. Can create a waiting list for any businesses who drop out

ii. Wine Tasting – Lemongrass

- 1. Had to reinstate their liquor license
- 2. Need to set a date
- 3. Determine what apps / food to provide

iii. Chip J. – Power of Positivity?

- 1. Fall Event – no response
- 2. Do we do another? Not well received

VII. Marketing – Margie, Jade

- Website – continued discussion
- Jordan’s page on hold for the time being

VIII. Adjourned at 1:06 PM.