



THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023 – NOON

MEETING MINUTES VIA ZOOM

- 1) Call to Order at 12:05pm by Kerry Brash
- 2) Attendance:

Kerry Brash - President, Jordan Sanford - Secretary, Judi Ann Lausier - Director, Rich Browning – Board Member, John Haddad - member, Katie D’Agostino – VP, John Seagrave – Director, Thom Smith - member, Margie Bowen – Board Member, Megan Olender – Director, Cynthia Bombard - President, Central CT Chamber, Michelle Cutrali - member, Jade Athas – Treasurer, Sharon Farmer - member, and Kerri Ouellette - member
- 3) Minutes – postponed to next month*
- 4) Treasurers Report – Jade
 - a. Bank Balance = \$10,808.31
 - b. Expenses since last report:
 - i. \$156.98, Eversource (\$46.69), QuickBooks (\$30.30) + \$79.99 In Concert Web Solutions
 - ii. \$25.66 - Pizza and Salad for February Member Meeting
 - iii. \$1,262.50 – First Installment to Webscape Design for our website upgrade.
 - c. Credits since last report:
 - i. \$425 dues collected since last report
 - d. Accounts Receivables:
 - i. \$1,175 outstanding for Dec. billing cycle
 1. 6 Members
 - e. Motion to approve treasurers report
 - i. First: John Haddad
 - ii. Second: Michelle Cutrali
- 5) Current Business
 - 1) Town Selectman, Doug Thompson – unable to attend today
 - a) Town Update
 - 2) Cindy Bombard – updates
 - a) Morning Jolt has been moved to the 22nd due to the recent snow
 - b) Annual Dinner is moved to sept 6th and meeting is in June
 - c) Mini Expo at the Double Tree is next week, Tuesday 2-7pm
 - i. Five vender spots left
 - d) Katie D’Agostino will be stepping in for Cindy, as she begins retirement

- e) Ribbon cutting on April 3rd
- 3) Membership – Rich
 - a) New members, Outreach, and retention
 - i. Business members = 64
 - ii. New business members = 0
 - iii. Past due business members = 6
 - iv. Lapsed business members = 0
 - v. Friends of BCC members = 5
 - vi. New Friends of BCC members = 0
 - b) Rich will task Membership Committee Members to reach out to past due members by phone to check-in
 - c) New Friends of BCC flyer to be published in the next newsletter and on Facebook
- 4) Event Committee – Kerry
 - i. Owner of Oak Solutions (Medicare) – works in Harwinton and Burlington, mostly with the senior population
 - ii. Also the head of fundraising for the lacrosse team
 - b) Aventurine – Educational event; Business Roadmap to build a healthy business
 - i. Will reschedule towards the end of April, as the snow did not allow for the event to happen
 - c) Larsons – Spring event with Avon/Canton
 - i. Waiting to hear back from the garden club about the pollinator program, which we will be promoting and supporting
 - ii. Planning on incorporating this in the next newsletter
 - d) Right Step Mortgage – Summer event with Avon/Canton – Wed, Sept 27, 5:30
 - i. New office just opened – partnering with Avon/Canton chamber
 - ii. Band?
 - (a) Kerry will email Jordan about her husband, Jimmy Sanford playing!
 - iii. Will be a great option to connect with neighboring towns
 - iv. Food Truck options? I Know A Guy might be able to go
 - e) Marcum LLC – Joint event with another member at Burlington location – John Seagrave
 - i. Will reach back out to Zach shortly
 - ii. No additional updates thus far
 - f) Greenhouse – Late winter?
 - g) The Swimming Pool Store - have not responded
 - i. Rich has offered to reach out to Jim Ashner to propose an After Hours of a Coffee Connection
 - h) Enclave – Kerry sent a follow up email and have yet to hear back
 - i. Michelle’s event is April 6th at Enclave Grill – Senior Medicare Info Session
 - ii. Owners are James and Nick
 - i) Tavern Day 2023 – John Seagrave, Liaison for Business Expo/1st meeting tonight
 - i. John will be attending and give us the rundown
 - j) Holiday Party – Combine with Annual Meeting?
 - i. Some board member terms ending at the end of May
 - (a) Kerry and Colleens are both coming to an end
 - k) Kerry plans to return on the 16th of April
- 5) Marketing

- a) Website approved by BOD – Margie update – website moving forward
 - i. Margie has begun to purge things we don't need and things that are outdated
 - ii. Put about 20 hours into the clean-up, setup, and updates thus far
 - iii. Current content is up, and working on building the templates for the business pages
- 6) New Business
 - a) ARPA funds for BCC – John Seagrave
 - i. The board got together to discuss ARPA – why don't we as a chamber go after the ARPA funds?
 - ii. Doug clarified that we could have access to these funds – would need to submit a reply/response to the committee for review
 - iii. ARPA allocations could help to offset costs
 - iv. Kerry is going to check up on the Christmas tree tab – any other pandemic-related points
 - (a) Michelle has volunteered to take over the Tree burden in town, with Thom and Jordan – we're going to "spruce up the trees" 😊
 - b) EDC – Sharon
 - i. Asking about doing wine tastings on the patio of the spirit shop – it is allowed, would only need to pull a permit
 - ii. Make this into a Business After Hours event
 - c) Home Brewed, Home Buying event – Jade and Jordan
 - i. Will forward flyer to post in the newsletter as soon as the proposed date of April 20th is set in stone!
 - (a) Will be held at Clocktown Brewing in Thomaston!
 - (b) This is a networking and educational social
- 7) Adjourn at 12:46pm by Kerry Brash