



MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, November 16th, 2023 (Noon) - Burlington Public Library

- 1) Call to Order at 12:01pm
- 2) Around the Room (:30 intros)
 - a. Jeff Geddes – Member, Katie D’Agostino – Central President, Sara Mitchell – Member, Tammy Belino – Member, Sharon Farmer – Friend of the Chamber, Thom Smith – Director, Rich Browning – Director, Megan Olender – Treasurer, John Seagrave – Burlington Chamber President, Jade LaBella-Athas – Vice President, Seamus Walsh – Guest of Jordan, Jordan Sanford – Secretary, Kerry Brash – Past President, Melissa Root – Member, Kelly Taylor – Member, Heather Chirumbolo, Sara Lynn Evenworth – Member, Doug Thompson – First Selectmen/Member, Kelly Thompson – Guest of Doug, Michelle Cutrali – Member.
- 3) Approval of Previous Meeting(s) Minutes – September/October
 - a. 1st Motion: Kerry Brash
 - b. 2nd Motion: Thom Smith
- 4) Treasurer’s Report
 - Bank Balance = \$13,045.59
 - Expenses since last report:
 - \$302.54 - Eversource (\$45.69), + QuickBooks (30.30) + In Concert Web Solutions (\$74.99) Webscape Design (150.49)
 - Credits since last report:
 - \$329.98- Oct Credit Card Receipts from CCC
 - \$100- Holiday Tree Sponsor- TSB
 - 1st Motion: Jade Athas
 - 2nd Motion: Jeff Geddes
- 5) Chamber Update
 - a. End of Year Celebrations & Sponsorship Needs!
 - i. Currently still being collected
 - b. New Year; New Ideas – in the works
- 6) Town & Affiliate Reports
 - a. Doug Thompson (First Selectman)
 - i. Nov 29th – Official Holiday Sing!
 - ii. Website is looking to roll out in Nov (the prototype) – official website is coming out in January (official date is pending).
 - iii. Looking for a more suitable name – “Explore Burlington”?
 - Do a survey on the social media pages to vote?
 - Submissions to Trisha at Twomey.t@burlingtonct.us
 - Looking to create an ice-skating rink in the center of town!!!

- a. Public works is working on as we speak!
 - Library Lane News
 - a. In talks with O&G – expressed some interest in partnering with us to do something
 - b. DOT is reviewing our sidewalks – have been for a year now
- b. Sharon Farmer (EDC)
 - i. Library Lane survey
 - Three things the town wants
 - a. Developed
 - b. Bakery
 - c. Farm to Table Restaurant
 - Theme – New England Village and Farm Theme
 - EDC working on streamlining applications to make timeframes more efficient
 - Making the checklist part of the website to get a permit
- c. Katie D’Agostino (President, Central CT Chamber of Commerce)
 - i. Home and Business Expo is Saturday and Sunday (11/18 and 11/19) – free tickets here or \$6 at the door
 - ii. Dec 5th, CT Comp sharing outlook from the state
 - iii. Dec 13th, Holiday party and recognize upcoming leaders
 - At the DoubleTree in Bristol
 - Toy Drive for United Way
 - 2024 calendar is about 95% done!

7) Committee Updates

- a. Membership – *Rich/Jade/Thom*
 - i. Membership Totals / Updates:
 - Business members = 79
 - New business members = 3: Prestige Plumbing Werks, United Way of West Central CT, Total Mortgage
 - Non renewing business members = 1: Union Savings Bank
 - Friends of BCC members = 9
 - New Friends of BCC members = 0
 - Past due members as of July 2023 = 4 (Bristol Health and 3 Friends of BCC members)
 - ii. Membership Committee met on 11/8
 - Team is working on developing two surveys to send through Constant Contact
 - One survey for current members to invite them to the upcoming holiday party and gather feedback on what they’d like to see from their Chamber in the upcoming year
 - Second survey for prospect members to ask what would get them to join, and to ask them to consider joining
 - iii. Committee felt there is a need for more frequent local networking opportunities for members. Maybe alternating between Coffee Connections in the AM and BAH in the PM every other month. We could put out a yearly calendar to our Members for sign-ups.
 - iv. Member Feedback
 - New survey is going out this afternoon – please fill out!
 - Second survey is in development for non-members
 - a. Include a “Member Benefits Flyer” – Trifold electronically
 - Virtual meetings work well!



- b. Holiday Trees – Jordan/Michelle/Thom
 - i. Trees Up! – Sponsors Needed!
 - If you sponsor, you will get a shout out at the Carol Sing
 - Also get a shout out on social media and the news letter
 - Checks made out to BCC – we have both a paypal code and an option for checks
 - Amounts are your choosing – a little or a lot helps!
 - ii. Decorating Days at Library: 11/27 & 11/29
 - Town is putting up lights as we speak
 - iii. Carol Sing: 11/29 (*see flyer*)
 - Tree decorating with involving the locals – provide plastic ornaments and encourage decorating days and participation to decorate the trees!
 - iv. Ensure we let the town know that the Chamber is very involved in the set up and decorating!
- c. Events – Kerry/Colleen
 - i. Holiday Party
 - Dec 4th, from 5:30-8:30 at Greenhouse Tavern
 - Sponsors welcome!
 - James Sanford, Jordan’s Husband, doing a solo acoustic set
 - Please bring a toy for the Toy Drive
 - Please bring donations for the fuel bank!
 - Honoring Geri Burns, one of three gentlemen who were the corner stones of the Chamber years ago
 - ii. Taste of Burlington / Restaurant Week – ongoing discussion with the board
 - iii. New Members Welcome!
- d. Marketing – Margie/Jade/Judi Ann
 - i. Social-wise – new business every Wednesday and a new event every Thursday
 - ii. Carol sing and holiday trees
 - iii. Share/like/comment!

8) Next Meeting December 21st at noon

9) Adjourn at 12:46pm