



MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, February 15th, 2023 (Noon) - Burlington Public Library

- 1) Call to Order at 12:05pm by John Seagrave
- 2) Around the Room (:30 intros): Thom Smith – Director, Jordan Sanford – Secretary, Jade LaBella – Vice President, John Seagrave – President, Rich Browning – Director, Stephen Flower – Member, Sara Mitchel - Member, Lisa Farris – Member, Jeff Geddis – Member, Judi Ann Lausier – Director, Kerry Brash – Past President, Margie Bowen – Director, JP Parente – Member, Sharon Cataldo – Member, Zachary Hunter – Member.
- 3) Approval of Previous Meeting(s) Minutes – January
 - (1) 1st Motion: Judi Ann Lausier
 - (2) 2nd Motion: Kerry Brash
- 4) Treasurer’s Report – Megan Olender (Unable to attend)
 - a) Bank Balance = \$15,736.16
 - b) Expenses since last report:
 - i) \$312.22 - Eversource (\$57.93), + QuickBooks (\$30.30) + In Concert Web Solutions (\$74.99) Webscape Design (\$149.00)
 - ii) \$52.77- Lunch for January Meeting
 - c) Credits since last report:
 - i) \$1,925.00 in Membership Dues
 - ii) Accounts Receivable: 1,225.00
 - (1) 1st Motion: Rich Browning
 - (2) 2nd Motion: Jade LaBella
- 5) Town & Affiliate Reports
 - a) Doug Thompson (First Selectman) – Unable to attend
 - i) Burlington Website – still in the works
 - (1) Trisha is working hard to get it moving
 - (2) The website has been in production for 1.5 years
 - (3) The website designs are in place and the proof should be coming through within the next month
 - (4) Chamber is willing to provide a small group to give thoughts and feedback once a draft is available
 - (5) End of March is the possible launch date
 - ii) Skating Rink is not happening this year – delay in obtaining materials and weather issues
 - (1) It is going to be saved for next year instead
 - iii) Town Tents – they are NOT just for tavern day
 - (1) Can rent them out for private residents for parties and events and other local town affiliates
 - (2) Contact Scott or Trisha to request tent rentals
 - iv) Town Trees
 - (1) Feedback - LOVED the uniformity of what we do

- (2) Will continue to do again next year
- b) Sharon Farmer / JP Parente (EDC)
 - i) List of businesses in town was created
 - (1) Checklist about CT.gov and who to contact for business needs
 - (2) Does not include the municipal part
 - (3) Included “consider joining the BCC”
 - ii) Blight Ordinance in town
 - (1) Discussed the history and neighbors of questionable properties
 - (2) Planning and Zoning info
 - (3) Farm Exemption
 - (4) ZEO’s recommendation(s)
- c) J.P. Parente (Tavern Day)
 - i) Where things stand
 - (1) Still do not have the final 501C3
 - (a) Have not been rejected, just waiting for final approval
 - (2) More food truck and restaurant participation
 - (3) Additional Chamber fundraising
 - (4) Business Expo is separate from sponsorships and memberships
 - (a) Chamber is ONLY collecting money for the expo
 - (b) Everything else will be going through the TDG
- d) Katie D’Agostino (President, Central CT Chamber of Commerce) – Unable to attend
 - i) Central Chamber Benefits presentation in March

6) Committee Updates

- a) Membership – *Rich/Jade*
 - i) Business members = 82
 - (1) New business members = 1: Traveling T Company
 - (2) Non renewing business members = 0
 - ii) Friends of BCC members = 9
 - (1) New Friends of BCC members = 0
- b) Past due members = 8 (5 Businesses as of Jan 2024, 1 Business as of Jul 2023, and 2 Friends as of Jul 2023)
 - i) The Membership Committee met on January 30th and again just prior to this meeting to continue discussion on the prospect member survey initiative, BCC decal/magnet orders, and devise a plan for member outreach to past due January members. 2024 Initiative
- c) Events – *Kerry/Jade*
 - i) 2024 Initiatives & Scheduled Events
 - (1) Coffee Connections @ I Know a Guy Deli
 - (a) Had about 20 people!
 - (b) Was great to see some CCCC members join – lots of new faces
 - ii) Lunch ‘N Learns
 - (1) March 27th, 12 – 1:30pm
 - (a) Thom will be facilitating the two courses, discussing AI and how to leverage it
 - (b) Teaching beginning stages and how to use
 - (c) Enclave Sponsorship??
 - (2) June 12th, 12 – 1:30pm
 - (a) Social media – how to utilize and FastTrack
 - iii) Restaurant Week



- (1) Still in discussion / planning stages
- (2) Working to get a card or passport prepared to bring to restaurant members
- (3) Positive response and feedback from restaurant owners
- (4) Will offer a price-fixed menu and/or special discounts
- (5) Potential date is towards the end of April
- (6) Potential to do a restaurant “month” next year??

d) Upcoming Dates / Events:

- (1) March 14th – BAH for Baron Financial & Borla!
- (2) May 8th – Bridge Healing Arts Center is doing a BAH
- (3) May 17th – Day of Caring with the United Way
- (4) March 20th – Business & Bourbon @ Enclave Grill
- (5) March 21st – Everything Expo @ Bristol DoubleTree from 2pm to 8pm
- (6) April 20th – Community Cleanup
- (7) June 8th – BrewFest @ Ski Sundown
- (8) August 8th – Brooker Memorial BAH
- (9) Potential LABA collab event in July!
- (10) Potential November BAH – either at Tonn’s or I Know A Guy

e) Marketing – *Margie/Jade/Judi Ann*

- i) No updates at this time
- ii) Social Media is on a schedule – Jade is taking care of!

7) **Next Meeting:** Thursday, March 21st (Noon) at the Burlington Library (same day as EXPO!)

a) **Be sure to stay after the Membership Meeting for Katie’s Presentation!**

8) Adjourn @ 1:01pm by John Seagrave