



## MEMBERSHIP MEETING

*Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 (Noon) - Burlington Public Library*

1. Call to Order at 12:04pm by John Seagrave
2. Around the Room (:30 intros): Katie D'Agostino – CCCC President, Sharon Farmer – Friend, Kristen Williams – Member, Sara Mitchel – Member, Megan Olender – Treasurer, Rich Browning – Director, John Seagrave – BCC President, Jade LaBella – Vice President, Jordan Sanford – Secretary, Colleen Ververis – Director, Thom Smith – Director, Sara Lynn Leavinworth – Member, Heather Chirumbolo – Member, Doug Thompson – First Selectmen of Burlington, Kerry Brash – Past President of BCC, JP Parente – Member.
3. Approval of Previous Meeting(s) Minutes – February
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Rich Browning
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Kerry Brash
4. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Bank Balance = \$16,730.55
  - b. Expenses since last report:
    - i. \$302.31 - Eversource (\$48.02), + QuickBooks (\$30.30) + In Concert Web Solutions (\$74.99) Webscape Design (\$149.00)
    - ii. \$57.77- Lunch for February Meeting
  - c. Credits since last report:
    - i. 1384.77- Membership Dues
5. Approval of Treasurer's Report
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Jade LaBella
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Colleen Ververis
6. Town & Affiliate Reports
  - a. Doug Thompson (First Selectman)
    - i. Local businesses need more exposure and our help!
      1. Min wage going up has strained a lot of local businesses
      2. Trisha wants to do more of a "local flair" when promoting
    - ii. Housing is a concern
      1. affordable housing
      2. senior housing
      3. the State is very set in their ways – Burlington does not fit the definition of "affordable housing" – we can't meet their targets because we are technically at 2% BUT there are more that do not follow their design
      4. affordable vs low income is DIFFERENT
      5. Watershed – 43% of properties are watershed
    - iii. Website –
      1. Trisha is dealing with some website designer snags
      2. Would like to create a small group of chamber members for feedback and navigation
      3. Launch event??
      4. Still working on a name
      5. Trisha to do a short presentation

- b. Sharon Farmer (EDC)
  - i. Taste of Burlington in Nov
- c. J.P. Parente (Tavern Day)
  - i. 50<sup>th</sup> Year of Tavern Day
  - ii. Tonight is the first planning meeting – button down memberships
  - iii. Transitioning to a 501C3
  - iv. “sponsorships” become memberships
  - v. Setting dates and pricing
- d. Katie D’Agostino (President, Central CT Chamber of Commerce)
  - i. March 1<sup>st</sup> launched the new website for CCCC!
    - 1. Over 100 events a year – all displayed on the calendar!
    - 2. Member login – create a profile!
      - a. Username is your email\*
    - 3. Has a new job board
    - 4. Community events can be featured!
    - 5. Podcast link and everyone under the umbrella
    - 6. New directory and sponsor shout outs
    - 7. When you register for an event, you will still receive the confirmation email so it can be added to your personal calendar
    - 8. Info Hub: built in virtual networking with other chamber members!
      - a. Must login with profile to access
        - i. Can see all of the events that you’ve registered for!

## 7. Committee Updates

- a. Membership – *Rich*
  - i. **Membership Totals**
- b. Events – *Kerry/Jade*
  - i. 2024 Initiatives & Scheduled Events
  - ii. Business After Hours
    - 1. Only opening is July!
    - 2. Next event is April 11<sup>th</sup> – BAH at Conquest
    - 3. June 13<sup>th</sup> – Business Block Party
  - iii. Lunch & Learn
    - 1. Hosted by Thom Smith
    - 2. “Could AI be the key to unlocking your business potential
    - 3. Follow up is June 12<sup>th</sup> – leveraging social media to build your brand
    - 4. Both events located at the Burlington Library in the community room
- c. Marketing – *Margie/Jade/Judi Ann*
  - i. Margie updates as events come up
  - ii. Judi Ann still doing create with billboard updates
  - iii. Jade is all caught up with social media posts for new members!

## 8. Chamber Updates

- a. Lewis Mills Scholarship Donation
  - i. Approved by the board
  - ii. Total of \$1000 – two \$500 scholarships
    - 1. One for a student that applies to a trade school
    - 2. Second is for a student who has shown exemplary community outreach
  - iii. BristolWORKS!
    - 1. Possible colab or opportunity to up the scholarship for a training facility?

## 9. Next Meeting: Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> (Noon) at the Burlington Library



**10. Upcoming Events:**

- a. Central Everything EXPO: TONIGHT!
- b. Lunch & Learn "AI in Business": March 27<sup>th</sup> (Noon)
- c. Central Business After Hours @ BristolWORKS!: March 27<sup>th</sup> (5pm)
- d. Chamber Meet & Greet @ Hogan's: April 4<sup>th</sup> (4pm)
- e. Burlington Business After Hours @ Conquest: April 11<sup>th</sup> (5pm)
- f. Community Cleanup on April 20<sup>th</sup> – All over Burlington
- g. June 8<sup>th</sup>: Fundraiser to support LMHS such as various sponsorships – at Fairview Golf Course
- h. April Chamber Building Cleanup – date TBD