

**GREATER OGDENSBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
MINUTES
May 17, 2017
Dobisky Visitor's Center**

Call Meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Sean McNamara at 12:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

Members present: Sean McNamara, Derek Van House, Judy Ryan, Melissa Lalonde, Rhonda Roethel, Kevin McDonough, Wayne Izzo, John Rishe, Kathy Bogart, Steve Hawes, Kim Demers, Michele Catlin, Sarah Purdy, Michael Thayer, Kathy Bogart and Lee Jones.

Members excused: Craig Chevalier, Chris Pitcher, John Wade and Betsy Porter.

Members absent: Alex Augsbury, Sue Duffy and Marcia LeMay.

Introduction of Guest: Rebecca Delles, Verizon Wireless Zone

Approval of the April 26, 2017 meeting minutes: A motion was made by John Rishe to approve the April 26, 2017 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Kim Demers and carried by all.

President's Report & Correspondence: The following correspondence was shared by President McNamara: Remington Art of Dining Invitation, Canton Chamber of Commerce Newsletter and the New York State Angler's Guide (which the Chamber has an ad in to promote our fishing events.)

Treasurer's Report: Alex Augsbury reviewed the January 2017 financials. Current month's expenses are \$11,073.55 and income is \$4,760.75 leaving a net loss of \$6,312.80 for the month. Year to date income is \$36,872.09 and expenses are \$34,849.37 leaving a net year-to-date profit of \$2,022.72. President McNamara noted that the May financials will be better. A motion was made to accept the April financials as presented by Kim Demers and seconded by Lee Jones, and carried by all.

Executive Director's Report:

- **Student of the Month** – next presentation is has been re-scheduled Wednesday, June 7th at 9:30 at BOCES.
- **Facebook** – Please visit the Chamber Facebook page and “like” & “share” it with your family and friends.
- **Alex Bay Brochure Swap** – John Morrison, OBPA and Barb O'Keefe will be attending and they will take our chamber info, too.
- **Akwesasne Mohawk Casino Resort** – is holding a Hospitality Industry Party on Thursday, June 15th from 4:30-7:30 pm for a networking opportunity with the hospitality industry in the area. Kim Snyder is attending instead of Laura – taking info on Remington, Founder's Day, Bass Tournament, Travel Guides, SL Wine Trail and our event flyer.

- **Chief of Police** – Laura talked to Cathy Jock in the City Clerk’s office – she said the Chief wanted to start conducting the background checks in the beginning of the year for our regular vendors and adding the new ones as they come in. Cathy Jock has sent us a spreadsheet for the all the approved vendors to date. Also, the Chief said we could write the NYS license number down on my vendor applications instead of getting copies of the driver’s licenses from the vendors. Laura thinks this might be easier information to obtain from the vendors.
- **City Wide Garage Sales** – Deadline for the directory is Friday, May 19th – directories will be on sale Thursday, May 25th at the Chamber, Kimro’s and Label Shopper for \$3. The City Wide Garage Sales are Friday, May 26th, Saturday May 27th and Sunday, May 28th. We have approximately (20) garage sales for the directory to date.
- **Polo Shirts and/or Jackets** – Laura is interested in purchasing polo shirts for the board and staff to wear at events. Don Clark has given us price quotes – the short sleeves -- \$18; long sleeves are \$21; the jackets are about \$38 with an additional fee for the Chamber logo. Laura would like the Chamber to purchase the shirts or pay part of the costs and whomever wants the jackets could buy their own.
- **Car-B-Que Donation** – SeaComm is giving us a \$200 donation for Car-B-Que – we have scheduled the photo for Friday, May 19th at noon at SeaComm. Please let me know if you plan on attending.
- **Vacation** – June 28th through July 10th – Kim will work every day from 9 am to 4 pm with the exception of July 4th.

Committee Reports:

WBFF -- President McNamara congratulated John Wade and Betsy Porter on a successful event. Laura thanked her assistant Kim for her hard work as well. Estimated attendance was 1,000 people. Laura reported that the 50/50 was \$800 total and that all the raffles were successful. Estimated expenses for the event are \$3,500 and income is around \$12,000. We should see a net profit of about \$8,000.

Car-B-Que -- Lee Jones reported that the event planning is going well. The next meeting is this Friday at 8:00 a.m. at Philips Diner and that all are welcome to attend. Members were asked to help sell raffle tickets and display event signs at their businesses. Steeling Country has been chosen as the band to play at the event. It was also noted that the CBQ will coincide with the Kiwanis Touch a Truck being held at the Mosaic parking lot and should draw some people from that down to the CBQ. Laura reported that eight vendors have registered for the event and sponsorship monies are steadily coming in.

Old Business: There was no old business to report.

New Business -- President McNamara noted that three board members have sent in resignation letters. The members are Julia Stevenson, Amy Hartford, and R. O’Donnell. A motion was made by Lee Jones to accept the letters of resignation from the above three members. The motion was seconded by Kevin McDonough and carried by all.

Laura noted that the next three people on the ballots have been contacted and are willing to take a seat on the Board. They are Penny Kerfien, Ogdensburg Public Library, Ray Babowicz, Community Health Centers, and Becky Delles from Verizon. Kim Demers motioned that all three individuals noted be voted on to the board. The motion was seconded by Lee Jones and carried by all.

There was some discussion that if we lose another member, we have no other nominees to choose from and perhaps the bylaws should change to allow an additional nominating process be held if need be. After some discussion, it was decided to not change the bylaws at this time, as this is a rare occurrence for the Chamber.

Letter of Support – Center for Rural Tourism -- President McNamara presented a letter support for the St. Lawrence County Chamber's application for a grant from the Center for Rural Tourism. If funding was received, it would enable the county chamber to develop more programs to attract tourism to the area. A motion was made by Sarah Purdy to approve the letter of support. The motion was seconded by Lee Jones and carried by all. Michele Catlin abstained from the vote. Laura will forward the correspondence to the appropriate person.

Roundtable:

Michele Catlin noted that Claxton-Hepburn's Dragon Boat Race is scheduled for July 15 and that there is still time to put a team in or be a sponsor.

50/50 Raffle: Kevin McDonough won the 50/50 of \$5.50 and donated it back to the Chamber.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:48 was made by Sean McNamara, seconded by Melissa Lalonde and carried by all.

NEXT MEETING
Wednesday, June 21, 2017
DOBISKY VISITOR'S CENTER