

GOUVERNEUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
53 HERM TOWNE ROAD  
Gouverneur, NY 13642  
315 287-0331  
[www.gouverneurchamber.net](http://www.gouverneurchamber.net)

## Agenda

Regular Meeting: May 5, 2025 at Gouverneur Community Center, 8AM

Minutes of April 7, 2025 Meeting

### **Treasurer's Report:**

**Correspondence:** We received May Elks Club Newsletter, received 2 Oriental Trading magazines and a few emails

**Committee Reports:** DBA's for February & March new businesses: Flourish Farmstead of Antwerp, CR Designs, Raising Wildflowers Daycare, Salty Biscuit, Terry's Lunch Box, Hailesboro Maple and S & R Mobile Services of Gouverneur, Ashley's Construction of Hermon, Northwoods Construction and Iron Artisans of Dekalb Jct, Fayette Electrical Contracting and Chestnut Hill NNY of Harrisville.

**Old Business:** New Business Tara Nichols of Curious Kitchen needs flower delivery \$15,000 CD Purchased at Community Bank

### **New Business:**

Christmas Parade: Reindeer Deposit Sent, Tree Raffle Committee Report

Banquet: Directories Done, syrup and table favors picked up, reservations called in  
Will Pick up Banquet Program soon.

Flag Day Parade Planning: Letters will be sent out soon. Vendors will be free to attend

Suggested Event: Awareness Walk for Dementia / Alzheimer's

Visitor's Guide Newspaper: Sent Advertising Offer – May 9<sup>th</sup> is Deadline

Students of Month for April are Antonio Calbo of Metalworking and Avery Dion of Culinary Arts

Business of Month of May is Arne's Custom Printing

**Next meeting: June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

# Gouverneur Chamber of Commerce

53 Herm Towne Road

Gouverneur, New York 13642

315-287-0331

## Minutes of April 7, 2025 Meeting

The April 2025 meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was called to order at 8:00AM by President Brooke Plowman. Attendees were President Brooke Plowman, Executive Director Donna Besaw, Directors CJ Fitzgerald, Melissa Simione, Ray Babowicz, Michelle Blackburn, Dianne Cocco, Donna Lawrence, Connie Stowell, Christian Gillan, and members Rachel Hunter of the Tribune Press, Dave Spilman from Town of Gouverneur, Mickael White of Mickael White Coaching LLC and Joe Fitzgerald. Also attending were Gardenshare Executive Director Carlene Doane and Erin Cuseo, Farmers Market Manager.

Gardenshare opened the meeting with discussion on the future of the farmer's market in Gouverneur. Vendors attending this year so far are a beef vendor, 2 produce vendors, a baker and a vendor selling nursery plants. Some vendors have dropped out in favor of a Facebook auction style sale. Several options were discussed including the chamber paying for part of the vendor fees, dropping the 'Farmer's Market' distinction with NYS and all were discounted for various reasons. We will continue as we have in the past and the directors will help with attendance and pass the word as much as possible. We feel a food truck would be of most benefit and we'll see about getting someone with a food truck to attend.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved by a motion from Connie and seconded by Dianne.

Executive Director Donna Besaw gave the treasurer's report with \$11,420 collected in dues and advertising and expenses totaled \$1,902 leaving a balance of \$37,971 in the checking account. Donna Lawrence made the motion to accept the treasurer's report and Melissa seconded, the motion carried. Donna Besaw suggested we purchase a CD and earn a little interest instead of leaving all the money in the checking account. Ray made a motion that we purchase a 7-month, \$15,000 CD at Community Bank, Connie seconded, and motion carried.

**Correspondence:** Donna reported that the Chamber received a April Elks Club newsletter, letter from prisoner being released, a newsletter from NNY Community Foundation, a postcard from Ogdensburg Command Performances as well as several emails and an Oriental Trading magazine.

**Committee Reports:** The DBA list for February and March have not been received yet but invitations will be sent as soon as they are received.

**Old Business:** New businesses have joined the chamber and will be sent flowers. Rachel Raven PLLC in the mini mall, F & F Contracting on the Stevens Road and Silver Leaf Diner on Route 11. It was also discussed that the businesses that had **new** owners should be entered into our drawing for business of the month again as Fun Unlimited was questioning how to be recognized there.

**New Business: Christmas Parade:** Donna reported that the reindeer may be available to attend that day as Shortsville Reindeer Farm is contemplating putting on a new crew and wondered if we would be interested

again. Michelle made a motion to hire the reindeer to attend, Ray seconded, and motion carried. The **Tree Raffle** committee is meeting at the conclusion of this meeting today but they do plan on a Christmas Tree Raffle that day and details will be worked out so we can announce at our banquet in May. **Memberships & Sponsors** have been received, and the **Directory** has been delivered to Coughlin for printing. Connie, CJ and Brooke contacted businesses that were late in joining and we thank them for their persistence. **Banquet Planning:** The **Award of Merit** for this year is the Eldon Conklin Community Center and the dinner that evening will be turkey. Rachel has agreed to do the story that will be included in our banquet program. BOCES was not able to do our printing of tickets and banquet program so Donna contacted Coughlin to handle that. Lawrence Manor has agreed to sponsor the printing of the tickets. Presale tickets must be purchased by April 28<sup>th</sup>. **Flag Day Parade:** We discussed asking vendors to attend and we will not charge a fee in hopes of having better vendor attendance. **Business of the Month of April** is Northern Credit Union and **Student of the Month of March** is Reese Cox of Pharmacy Tech. Our next meeting is scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was adjourned at 9:07.

Respectfully submitted:

Donna Besaw  
Executive Director