

GOUVERNEUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

53 HERM TOWNE ROAD

Gouverneur, NY 13642

315 287-0331

www.gouverneurchamber.net

Agenda

Regular Meeting: September 11, 2023

Minutes of August 7, 2023 Meeting

Treasurer's Report:

Correspondence: We received a September Elks Club Newsletter, a Northern NY Community Foundation newsletter / magazine and several miscellaneous emails.

Committee Reports: DBA Lists for July was received and welcome letters sent to Pleasant Country Homestead and Spirit Level Candle Co of Hammond, Caleb's Lawncare and Fayette Contracting of Gouverneur, Ironman Scrap Towing & Heavy Recovery of Antwerp, JR Welling Auto and Mountain Gate Plaza of Star Lake, Little Miss Muffit's Sweettime Bakery of Hermon,

Old Business:

New Business:

New 'Welcome to Gouverneur' Sign Update Connie

Pumpkin Festival Committee meets after this meeting – any suggestions for them?

Gazebo Project Update - Ron

Music in the Park during Farmer's Market

Christmas Parade Planning Continued

Trunk or Treats Update – Ray? Candy?

Resignation from Gari Vibber

Scam Running from a Gouverneur Address Online

Business of the Month: McNikki's Timeout Lounge

Next meeting: October 2nd

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Minutes of August 7, 2023 Meeting

The August 7th meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was called to order at 12:01 by President Tim Reddick. Attendees (in person and on Zoom) were Executive Director Donna Besaw, Directors Melissa Simone, Connie Stowell, Jim Bowhall, Shari Barnhart, Christian Gillan, Michelle Blackburn, CJ Fitzgerald, Brooke Plowman and members Rachel Hunter from the Tribune Press and Mayor Ron McDougall with the Village.

The minutes of the July 10th meeting were approved by a motion from Brooke and seconded by Melissa. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Donna Besaw reported receiving no income for July and expenses totaled \$1,231 leaving a balance of \$21,452 in the checking account of which \$1,175 was Eldon Conklin memorial fund. Connie made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Jim seconded.

Correspondence: The Chamber received the August newsletter from the Elks Club, sent a letter of support for the Town's Rehabilitation Grant, received email from Downtown Decorations, received 'Save the Dates' postcard from County Chamber, received Google Ads postcard as well as a magazine and other miscellaneous emails

Committee Reports: DBA List for July was received, and welcome letters were sent to Old Dekalb Hotel in Dekalb, KC Roofing in Edwards, Robinson Art & Design in Hermon, Durham's Auto Service & Recovery in Harrisville, Maloy's Lawn Care & Snow in Gouverneur and Oxxshire Farmer's Market in Rensselaer Falls

Old Business: Donna reported that we now have a debit card if it's needed for advertising. Brooke reported that she checked into the County Chamber of Commerce offering to hold a 'Business In the Spotlight' meeting here in Gouverneur. She said they are looking to organize at different areas all over the county and she does not believe that businesses will leave our chamber to join them.

New Business: A letter was sent to Rick Walton of Walton's Auto on Rt 11 asking if he may be interested in letting the chamber erect our Welcome to Gouverneur Sign on his property in exchange for membership in the chamber. When Donna called to see if that was acceptable, they had just received the letter and would contact us. Connie offered to follow up for us. Farmer's Market Zoom Meeting with Erika Kelso was concerning the non-profit organizations that wish to attend the market and hand out literature. It was decided if someone is a member of the chamber, they can attend the market but if not a member, they

will not be allowed. The Pumpkin Festival Committee decided to meet directly after our next chamber meeting. Gazebo Project is slow in getting underway. Mayor Ron reported that the gazebo is being built by the Amish in Pennsylvania and will be trucked up here in sections. He is hopeful that it will be ready by the Breast Cancer Walk on October 7th but if not, they will need to make other arrangements to have the speaker elevated to speak to the crowd. Music In the Park was discussed. We thought maybe when the Cancer Walk was going on - but that is not likely to happen with the new gazebo. A couple entertainers that are possibilities are Matoon Creek (Farrs), Dr Dodds and Al Betrus. Tim made the motion that we contact someone to come and play during a farmer's market in the near future and pay up to \$200. Donna seconded and all were in favor. Connie will check with Al Betrus and Donna will let Erika Kelso; the market manager know. We also discussed the possibility of a block party next year and invite Mullins to serve beer & wine. Telephone Update - Donna reported that the nuisance calls are numerous, and that caller ID would be handy on the chamber's phone line. Would the chamber prefer to let the answering machine field calls to filter out the calls or would they want to update the phone line at a cost of \$44 per month (up from \$37) and two 'one-time charges' of \$100 and \$85 for voice activation and a 4-line phone. It was decided to leave the phone as it is and let the answering machine filter out the unwanted calls. Trunk or Treats was discussed, and we'll bring it up again next month when Ray may be present. Christmas Parade Planning was discussed. It was decided that we will hold the event from 2: - ?. We'll have reindeer and Santa. Cookies & hot cocoa at the church again from 4:00 - 7:00. Jim will contact the church for us. We plan on giving the children a single item again as it was much easier than filling stockings and 150 was a very close number last year. We'll look into getting the reindeer closer to us - possibly from someone in Lowville or Old McDonald's Farm also has reindeer so we'll check with them also. Business of the Month for August is Heather Greenhill's Hair Haven. We discussed whether we wanted our September meeting to be Tuesday, September 5th as Labor Day is Monday or if we'll go to the following week. We decided to hold the meeting on September 11th.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Besaw