

GOUVERNEUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
53 HERM TOWNE ROAD
Gouverneur, NY 13642
315 287-0331
www.gouverneurchamber.net

Agenda

Regular Meeting: October 5, 2026

Minutes of September 14, 2026 Meeting

Treasurer's Report:

Correspondence: We received Elks Club October Newsletter, NNY Business Newspaper, Ogdensburg Command Performances Postcard of Upcoming Shows and an Oriental Trading Magazine

Committee Reports: DBA report for September has not been received yet

Old Business: Pumpkin Fest Update and Discussion

New Business: North Country This Week Advertising Offer
Winter Blast 2027: Meeting Update
Christmas Lights Budget Vote
Food Truck Frenzy: Any Discussion?
Trunk or Treat: Planning and Helpers
Festival of Trees & Santa's Village
Student of the Month has not started yet but expect it next month
Business of the Month of October is Jreck Subs

Next meeting: November 2nd

Gouverneur Chamber of Commerce

53 Herm Towne Road

Gouverneur, New York 13642

315-287-0331

Minutes of September 14, 2026 Meeting

The September 2026 meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was called to order at 8:00 AM by President Brooke Plowman. Attendees were Vice President Donna Lawrence, Executive Director Donna Besaw, Directors CJ Fitzgerald, Michelle Blackburn, Melissa Simone, Jessica Hentz, Dianne Cocco, Mickael White, Kayla Ciambra, Connie Stowell, Emily Bush, Christian Gillan and Dave Spilman from the Town.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved by a motion from Donna and seconded by Dianne.

Executive Director Donna Besaw gave the treasurer's report showing no money collected in August and expenses totaled \$1,068 leaving a balance of \$16,944 in the checking account. Connie made the motion to accept the treasurer's report and Christian seconded, the motion carried.

Correspondence: Donna Besaw reported that the Chamber received a September Newsletter from the Elks Club, a postcard of Christmas Decorations from Main Street Designs, NNY Business Newspaper, NNY Community Foundation Magazine, Downtown Decorations email and an American Express Credit Card Offer

Committee Reports: The DBA lists for July and August show new businesses Fowler Mini Mart, NC Baits, Singhs Convenience Shop and JC Handyman in Gouverneur, Bread Shed in Edwards and A & L Resell in Rensselaer Falls. They were sent welcome letters. We also had a new business join; Thai Street Eats and Emily delivered flowers.

Old Business: Farmer's Market has less vendors attending and has not had any new ones join. Melissa reported that some are unhappy with Gardenshare and they are the reason they are not coming.

New Business: Winter Blast 2027 will meet on September 23rd at 6:00 at the Community Center Brooke reminded everyone. We are waiting on the school system to come up with a logo for us. The budget is estimated to be around \$1,700

for this event with \$800 in advertising, \$250 in programs, \$250 in prizes and \$300 for a mascot. This will be voted on at a future meeting. **Food Truck Frenzy** was very busy again in September and we had music also for 2 hours. Several local restaurants (Dashnaw's Pizzeria, Casablanca, Custard Cottage, Cones & Kayaks as well as a couple of others) expressed their dissatisfaction with the event as their sales were way down on Fridays when the food trucks were in the village park. The Chamber's concern is with the local 'brick and mortar' restaurants and after some discussion, it was decided to hold the food truck event on Mondays starting in 2027 as some of the local restaurants are closed that day anyway. Three of the local food trucks are also chamber members but the others will be encouraged to join also. Connie made the motion to get the porta pot again and to hire someone with music for \$200 for the evening. Michelle seconded that motion and motion carried. **Pumpkin Fest** is being held on September 19th and 20th. Directors are encouraged to sign up and work at the event where we will have our table set up with a raffle basket, 50/50 raffle and we'll also help sell pumpkin drop tickets. **Trunk or Treat** is on October 23rd from 6:00 - 8:00. Donna Lawrence made a motion to spend up to \$450 on candy and cider, Connie seconded and the motion carried. **Festival of Trees & Santa's Village** was discussed. It will run a full week this year at the Community Center. Vendors attending with trees and Chamber Directors are encouraged to dress in the theme of their tree or in Christmas attire. The first day will be for the vendors donating trees, kind of a 'meet & greet' and we will have light snacks and wine. We are also planning a special time set aside for special needs people where there will be no loud music etc. Directors are asked to save plastic containers that M & M's or snacks come in so we can decorate and put under the trees to collect the voting tickets. Our meeting to plan for the event is held on September 21st at noon at the Community Center. **Business of the Month** of September is Smither's Tire. Next month's meeting is October 5th. This meeting was adjourned at 8:57.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Donna Besaw".

Donna Besaw, Executive Director