

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

Agenda

Regular Meeting: March 3, 2025 at Gouverneur Community Center, 8AM

Minutes of Feb 3, 2025 Meeting

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Correspondence:** We received March Elks Club Newsletter, Oriental Trading magazine & \$20 gift card, political letter endorsing Blake Gendebien for District 21, forwarded to government agencies & non-profits the email from Americorp offering free youth labor, sent 'thank you' notes to Dave & Patti Spilman for use & preparing the Community Center, Diane Miller for donuts and TJ & Village crew for plaque installation and excellent job with Christmas decorations, we received several emails and advertisements for credit cards also.

**Committee Reports:** DBA's for January have not been received yet but all prior DBA's, in our area, for 2024 were sent membership letters.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

Christmas Parade: Any Main Attraction Ideas, Report from Tree Raffle Committee?

Memberships & Sponsors Received

Banquet in May Planning: Dinner Quotes Received, Review Banquet Program

TJ Maxx & Marshalls Invitation Letter: CJ

Farmer's Market and Gardenshare Advertising

Flag Day Parade Planning

Tribune Press Offer to Do Story each month on Business of the Month –who can do story?

Directories: We received our quote from Coughlin Printing

Student of Month for February is Logan Beachard of Automotive II

Business of Month of the month of March is G & R Auto

**Next meeting: April 7<sup>th</sup>**

# **Gouverneur Chamber of Commerce**

**53 Herm Towne Road**

**Gouverneur, New York 13642**

**315-287-0331**

## **Minutes of February 3, 2025 Meeting**

The February 2025 meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was called to order at 8:00AM by President Brooke Plowman. Our first meeting at the Gouverneur Community Center was well attended. Attendees were President Brooke Plowman, Executive Director Donna Besaw, Directors CJ Fitzgerald, Melissa Simione, Ray Babowicz, Donna Lawrence, Michelle Blackburn, Connie Stowell, Christian Gillan, Dianne Cocco and members Rachel Hunter of the Tribune Press, Dave Spilman from Town of Gouverneur and Mickael White of Peaceful Finances with Mickael White.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved by a motion from Donna Lawrence and seconded by Ray.

Executive Director Donna Besaw gave the treasurer's report with \$2,150 collected in dues and advertising and expenses totaled \$1,080 leaving a balance of \$19,797 in the checking account. Connie made the motion to accept the treasurer's report and Michelle seconded, the motion carried.

**Correspondence:** Donna reported that the Chamber received a February Elks Club newsletter, Oriental Trading magazine, Street Designs Magazine and several miscellaneous emails.

**Committee Reports:** The DBA list for January has not been received yet. New local businesses will be sent 'welcome' letters once we get it.

**Old Business: Park Bench Sign:** The sign in memory of deceased chamber directors has been installed on the bench in the park by the Gouverneur DPW. Donna will send them a thank you for installing that and for the decorations in the park at Christmas and getting everything ready for our parade & events.

**New Business: Christmas Parade Discussion:** Donna reported that the reindeer no longer leave their farm in Rochester so we will need another attraction this year. In the past we have not had a large attraction, but we now have major sponsors paying \$1,000 for sponsorship of the Christmas Events so we will try to come up with

something else before December. The tree raffle committee has not met yet so nothing to report there. **BOCES Open House** sponsored by the county Chamber of Commerce is tomorrow at 8:30 AM with breakfast provided. It is a networking event for businesses and although pre-registration was required, it is doubtful someone would be turned away if they decided to go. Donna reported that **258 Membership Letters** were sent out and we are starting to receive the dues now. A few were returned and some will be hand delivered. **Banquet in May Planning** was discussed. We will ask BOCES to print our program this year and Donna will bring last year's program to the next meeting to be updated. Ray has agreed to be our speaker that evening and Connie the emcee. We decided to advertise in the Tribune Press for 'Award of Merit' recipient and it must be a member business - not an individual. We will also ask Shari to put it on our website with a deadline of March 31<sup>st</sup>. **Thank You Card will be sent to Route 11 Diner** as she provided the donuts for today's meeting. **Business of the Month of February** is Rent A Center and **Student of the Month of January** is Breannah Markwicz of Cosmetology. Our next meeting is scheduled for March 3<sup>rd</sup> again at the Community Center. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21.

Respectfully submitted:

Donna Besaw  
Executive Director