

# Gouverneur Chamber of Commerce

53 Herm Towne Road

Gouverneur, New York 13642

315-287-0331

## Minutes of July 1, 2024 Meeting

The July 2024 meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was called to order at 12:00 by President Brooke Plowman. Attendees were Executive Director Donna Besaw, Directors CJ Fitzgerald, Melissa Simione, Shari Barnhart, Connie Stowell, Ray Babowicz, Dianne Cocco, Tim Reddick, Michelle Blackburn and Mayor Ron McDougall.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved by a motion from Connie and seconded by Ray.

Executive Director Donna Besaw gave the treasurer's report with dues, merchandise sold, table rent collected and raffle income received of \$508, and expenses totaled \$2,362 leaving a balance of \$28,706 in the checking account with \$27,531 as Chamber share and \$1,175 in Eldon Conklin memorial fund. Tim made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Melissa seconded, motion carried.

**Correspondence:** Donna reported that the Chamber received a July Elks Club newsletter, received a 'Thank You' from Principal Cory Wood for Moving Up Day Award and we received several miscellaneous emails.

**Committee Reports:** The **DBA list** for May has not been received yet. We do have two new members: Troy Trombly of Elite Construction and Jason Matice of NY Life. CJ and Connie will deliver 'welcome' flowers to them.

**Old Business: Welcome to Gouverneur Sign** Con Tech has offered to construct the frame for us when Tim can line up some workers. **Award Of Merit** Committee had not met yet to decide but Tim reported that it must be a business or business owner and they also must be an active member of the chamber in order to qualify for the award. Ray made the motion to accept Tim's recommendation, Michelle seconded, and the motion carried. **Gazebo is Done & Looking GOOD!** Ron was asked about the sound system, and he said that is still 'up in the air'. He believes the sound system will be installed but no details to report at this time.

**New Business: Flag Day Recap:** The Flag Day Parade and events were well attended. We had 3 marching bands, 3 paying vendors and lots of people. Dianne reported that we could use more small flags that we handed out as she ran out fairly quickly. Connie said we need more help at the conclusion with picking up road barriers, cones etc. CJ said she learned that the Rec Center was charging children \$3 and \$5 for playing games and jumping in the bounce house. Since the bounce house is donated and the Chamber purchases the prizes,

we would prefer that the children are not charged to participate. Casey explained that he has two paid workers. We will again discuss before next year's events. **Farmer's Market:** Some vendors have expressed their desire to stay at the current location, Farley's lot. The park will open back up to them on July 11<sup>th</sup> and they will let us know (for advertising purposes) whether they decide to stay or go back to the park. They are currently undecided. **Christmas Parade:** There was again discussion as to what we could offer instead of the reindeer this year. One option is mini horses either to pet or ride. Donna will contact the local vet to see who has horses that may be able to attend. **Village Wide Garage Sales** will be held on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The advertising is all set, and the park is approved. **Gouverneur Fair** is July 30<sup>th</sup> - August 4<sup>th</sup>. We still have the horse race award from last year so Donna will see about getting the date changed so it can be used this year. Brooke will attend and award the trophy to the winner. **Business of the Month of July** is the Village of Gouverneur, and the **Student of the Month** starts up again in September. The next meeting is August 5<sup>th</sup>. This meeting was adjourned at 12:48 by Ray and seconded by Connie.

Respectfully submitted:

Donna Besaw, Executive Director

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

Agenda

Regular Meeting: August 5, 2024

Minutes of July 1, 2024 Meeting

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Correspondence:** We received a August Elks Club Newsletter, Ogdensburg Command Performances postcard advertising Menopause 2 'The Musical', several emails and 2 Oriental Trading Magazines.

**Committee Reports:** DBA lists for May & June were received and 'welcome' letters were sent to: Plant Nook, Rustic Rise Sourdough & Supplies, Jesmer's Drywall Finishing, Scott Laws Construction & More, Pawfection Pet Salon, JH & R Construction Property Management, Sew Uniquely Happy and Frog Hollow Bait Shop in Gouverneur, St Lawrence Custom Baits in Edwards, Amy Breglia Design in Fowler, Grasse River Lawn & Landscape in Hermon and Frog Holler Cabins in Hammond

**Old Business:** Welcome to Gouverneur Sign: Tim  
Park Bench Sign 'In Memory' of Past Directors: Vote & Order the sign

**New Business:**

Farmer's Market: Moved Back to Park  
Christmas Parade – Possible Reindeer replacement Mini Horse, Mini Donkey & 4 Dwarf Goats Plus Other Suggestions.....  
Gouverneur Fair July 30<sup>th</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup> – Update from Ron, Brooke Awards Horse Race  
Pumpkin Fest: Planning & Update  
Scholarships to GHS & BOCES: Possible Increase  
Portable Sound System or Sound System in Gazebo: Do We Get Our Own?  
Business of the Month August: Mercy Point Church on Rock Island Street  
Student of Month starts up again in September

**Next meeting: Tuesday September 3<sup>rd</sup> or Monday September 9<sup>th</sup> (Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> is Labor Day)**