

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

[Agenda](#)

Regular Meeting: Dec 2, 2024

Minutes of November 4, 2024 Meeting

Treasurer's Report:

Correspondence: We received a December Elks Club Newsletter, several St Lawrence County Chamber emails, another Americorp email offering Youth Workers, offer of FEMA Webinars, Oriental Trading Magazine and received several miscellaneous emails

Committee Reports: DBA's for October have been received and new businesses are: Ultimate Experience Boutique and Better Information Technology Services in Gouverneur and Kerr Well Auto Sales & Service in Star Lake. These businesses will be sent membership letters in early January as it's too late in 2024 to ask them to join now and pay \$62.50 and pay again in January.

Old Business: Park Bench Sign: Update
Mills Park Sign: Update
Coffee Cup Order: Update

New Business:

Email Rec'd from Shari: Discussion
Small Business Saturday: Ads Placed in Paper & Posters Around Town
Christmas Lights for New Gazebo
Christmas Parade: Last Minute Discussions and Planning
Business of the Month November: Bob's Market & Diner in Fowler
Student of Month November: Matthew Daniels of Criminal Justice II

Next meeting: January 6th

Gouverneur Chamber of Commerce
53 Herm Towne Road
Gouverneur, New York 13642
315-287-0331
Minutes of November 4, 2024 Meeting

The November 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, Dianne Cocco, Ray Babowicz, Connie Stowell, Shari Barnhart, Christian Gillan and members Heather and David Tanner of Mercy Point Church and Mayor Ron McDougall.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved by a motion from CJ and seconded by Diane, motion carried.

Executive Director Donna Besaw gave the treasurer's report with \$15 deposited for the month of November and expenses totaling \$1,533 leaving a balance of \$24,151 in the checking account. Connie made the motion to approve the report and Ray seconded, motion carried.

Correspondence: Donna reported that the Chamber received a November Elks Club newsletter, several St Lawrence county Chamber emails, sent Amber Morrow and the Savings & Loan a thank you for the \$10,000 grant, received Downtown Decorations email about Pole Wraps as Christmas Decorations, AmeriCorps email offering youth workers, Oriental Trading Magazine and several miscellaneous emails.

Committee Reports: The **DBA list** for October has not been received yet.

Old Business: Park Bench Sign: Connie reported that the sign had been ordered. When it arrives, the village has agreed to install it on the bench. **Portable Sound System** came in last week. Heather & David Tanner picked it up and will demonstrate how to use it at a later time. **Trunk or Treat** was a big success Ray reported. We had the most trunks ever at 44 and had 1200 kids attending. CJ, Melissa, Diane and Brooke attended representing the chamber. CJ suggested that we form a new committee for 2025 for trunk or treat planning.

New Business: Christmas Parade: The committee will meet immediately after this meeting but items requiring money we vote on. Connie made a motion to purchase 300 toys for Santa to give away, Melissa seconded, and motion carried. CJ had information on costumes and suggested we have some high school kids mingle with costumes on. CJ made the motion to purchase one costume to see how well they are received. Connie seconded and the motion carried. It was also suggested that Santa's elves (two of Shawn Kirby's daughters) attend early that day and mingle in the basement of the Methodist Church along with our costumed character. Donna will contact Shawn about the girls attending. In Donna Lawrence's absence, Brooke reported that the local bakers would make cookies for \$8.00 per dozen and it was Donna Lawrence's suggestion that we have the local bakers make them even though it was a substantial increase in price. It was discussed and we decided to stay with BOCES as they charged us \$5.00 per dozen last year and they also prepare our posters for several events and are not paid at all for those. With the purchase of the cookies, BOCES will benefit a little from the chamber. **Gouverneur Middle School Yearbook Advertising** was offered at a cost of \$25 for a business card size ad. Although it is a worthy cause, we decided to pass as we usually only advertise our local events in the newspaper. **Mills Park Sign** is in desperate need of replacement. Connie brought photos of the sign and said the town has agreed to build a structure to hold the sign if one was purchased. Melissa made a

motion to replace the Mills Park Sign with a cost of up to \$500. Connie seconded and the motion carried. Connie will contact Arne about the sign. **Small Business Saturday** advertisement was brought to the meeting. The ad seemed small so after some discussion, Ray made a motion to enlarge the ad, add color and ask Rachel if she could put a QR code linking it to our website. Melissa seconded the motion and motion carried. Donna will contact Rachel with our changes. Brooke said we are waiting on BOCES for our Small Business Saturday posters. Donna offered to order some **T-shirt forms, Styrofoam head to display hats and a rack to hang t-shirts** as they are shown at very reduced prices in catalog she purchases from. All items totaled would be less than \$100 so Donna made a motion to purchase these items, Melissa seconded, and motion carried. Donna also reported that we only have 15 coffee cups left, and these are used to send flowers to new members. We discussed purchasing more cups so Shari will get a new cost for us since the last ones were purchased in 2018. We will discuss the cups again at the December meeting. **Business of the Month of November** is James Maloy Post: American Legion. **Student of the Month of October** is Lawrence Brown of Building Trades II. Our next meeting is scheduled for December 2nd. The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 by a motion from Connie and seconded by CJ.

Respectfully submitted:

Donna Besaw
Executive Director