

Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce, Inc.
6 Academy St.
Greenwich, NY 12834

January 20, 2016

DRAFT MINUTES – APPROVED

Directors in attendance: Mary Barnhart, Suzanne Becker, Bill Blake, Lisa Gillis, Christine Grogan, Barb Hamel, Andy Kelly and Katie Mohamed Ali.

- I. President Suzanne Becker called the meeting to order at 6:35. Suzanne introduced a recently elected board member, Katie Mohamed Ali, the Manager at the Greenwich Trustco Bank branch.
- II. Consent Agenda:

The December 2015 meeting minutes & the December treasurer's reports were included. A MOTION was made by Suzanne Becker to accept the consent agenda and was seconded by Bill Blake. The MOTION carried.
- III. Correspondence:

The board received a thank you note from Stacy Nute. The board received an offer for Greenwich to participate in the Americade Scavenger Hunt in June 2016. It was discussed and it will be offered to qualifying businesses to be a cooperative participant.

The Board received a letter from director Barbara Hamel stating that she will not be renewing her position as director upon her term ending in April 2016. That led to a discussion of the directors expiring terms and those positions needing to be filled in April.
- IV. Action & Discussion Items/ New Items:
 1. Directors reviewed a document of the cost of the monthly newsletter mailings. There was discussion of the pros and the cons. There was discussion on using only electronic newsletters at some point in the future. Bill Blake made a MOTION to go to the production of a quarterly newsletter mailing and a monthly posting of the BOD meeting minutes on our website. It was seconded by Barb Hamel and carried.
 2. There was a review of the cost of website. There was discussion on the need to update the site to be Mobile Friendly. Mary Barnhart has recently worked to have this done on websites she works from and she had suggestions for us. Suzanne asked her to send the office specifics to request in a website redesign. Suggestions were given to contact members first and some nonmembers for a proposal to redesign the site. Kathy will move forward with those plans.
- V. Old Business:
 1. There was discussion on the Managing Director job opening advertisement to be placed this week into the two local newspapers and to run for 2 consecutive weeks, with a reply end date of 2/12/16 first. Barb Hamel made a MOTION to place the advertisement in 2 local newspapers. The MOTION was seconded by Andy Kelly and carried. Kathy and Suzanne will finalize that placement on 1/21/16
 2. Christine Grogan reported that the tractor Parade went well. There was a follow up meeting last week to go over everything. She said that a questionnaire will go out to participants & downtown businesses regarding changing the day of the week to Saturday. The Tractor parade fundraising items sold about half, nothing is dated and will be sold again in 2016. The Agricultural Scholarship of \$1000 to the Greenwich Central School will be sent to the school shortly.
- VI. Committee Reports:
 1. Executive –
 2. Budget /Audit – No report.
 3. Communications – No report.

4. Fundraising –
5. Health Insurance –
4. Membership – An application has been received from the Easton Mountain Retreat, Wil Fisher Executive Director, 391 Herrington Hill Rd. Greenwich, NY 12834 518 692-8023, they are a nonprofit retreat center offering programming for the LGBT community and with full service rentals for all. Suzanne Becker made a MOTION to accept the application from Easton Mountain Retreat, seconded by Andy Kelly and carried.
Kathy asked for advice on 5 past due members since October. Kathy & Suzanne will make phone calls to them to determine if they plan to renew their membership.
5. Halloween –
6. Networking – Kathy asked if Mary Barnhart & Katie Mohamed Ali can work with her on this committee. A meeting was set for Feb 2, 2016 at 1:00 pm.
7. Tractor Parade – See above.
8. Whipple City Festival – Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday February 10th at 6:00 pm at the Chamber office. Andy Kelly reported that we really need committee people for these committees: Fundraising, Parade, & Entertainment.
9. Chili Chow Down – Suzanne reported that having spoken with Mike White of the Greenwich Volunteer Fire Dept. about taking over the Chili Chow Down event, we have been told that they will take it on with the Middle Falls Fire Dept. Kathy & Suzanne will meet with them soon to work on plans to help them with it this year..
10. Nominating – See above.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 by a MOTION made by Suzanne Becker.

The next meeting is on February 18, 2016

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Nichols-Tomkins
Secretary