

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

March 16, 2016

MINUTES – APPROVED

Directors in attendance: Mary Barnhart, Suzanne Becker, Catherine Burkly, Christine Grogan, Barb Hamel, Andy Kelly and Matt Ryan

- I. President Suzanne Becker called the meeting to order at 6:55. Suzanne introduced Jessica Lynn to the directors who don't know her or met her already.
- II. Consent Agenda:

The February 2016 meeting minutes & the February treasurer's report were included. A final approval of the hiring of Jessica Lynn as the Managing Director was included. A MOTION was made by Catherine Burkly to accept the consent agenda and was seconded by Mary Barnhart. The MOTION carried.
- III. Correspondence:

The Board received an invitation from the Adirondack School to a gathering of alumni, community members and business people. It was not clear what the purpose of the meeting is. Kathy was asked to contact them for more information.
- IV. Action & Discussion Items/ New Items:
 1. Suzanne asked for approval of the addition of the committee Woman in Business. Katie Jo Mohamed Ali will oversee the committee; she had experience with this type of group at another Chamber and wants to get one organized here. Suzanne feels that it should be officially a part of the of the GGCC. Barb Hamel suggested a motion be made to move forward with that. Suzanne made the motion to include a "Woman in Business" committee; the MOTION was seconded by Andy Kelly and carried.
 2. Suzanne brought up a policy from 1992 where we offered a free membership to area fire & emergency service organizations. Matt Ryan made a MOTION to offer a free membership to fire and emergency service organizations; it was seconded by Catherine Burkly. The MOTION carried. It will include the Easton Fire Dept., the Middle Falls Fire Dept., the Cossayuna Fire Dept. and the Easton Greenwich Rescue Squad.
 3. Kathy distributed the Volunteer Award Policy & Nominating form. Suzanne asked for directors to give nominations tonight or to forward them to the office. The award is given at the Annual meeting in April. Some nominations were given to Kathy. The potential date of the annual meeting and the date of the organizational board meeting were discussed. Suzanne spoke of combining the annual meeting with a retirement celebration for Kathy Nichols-Tomkins
- V. Old Business:
 1. Kathy reported that she and Bill Blake have called about 8-10 members about taking a seat on the Board of Directors. There is one person considering it. Kathy also sent out an email to about 8 major employers looking for nominees. They will continue to make contacts. Kathy asked for possible names of people who might be good candidates.
 2. Kathy outlined the proposals for annual meeting the committee researched. The decision was to go to the Christ the Kings Spiritual Life center. They are a member and the facility is very nice & the menu looks good. Kathy and Suzanne will move forward with CTK for April 21, 2016 annual

meeting and the organizational meeting will be on April 20th, 2016 at which time there is an election of Officers.

VI. Committee Reports:

1. Executive – No report.
2. Budget /Audit – No report.
3. Communications – No report.
4. Fundraising – No report.
5. Health Insurance – No report.
4. Membership – Kathy suggested that the board take a look at the dues structure which has been in place for 10 years. She feels it may be time to raise the amounts of the levels of membership. An analysis had been done 10 years ago of the impact of a change and a comparison of dues structures at nearby chambers. She will give that analysis to the board for them to review and take into consideration.
5. Halloween – No report.
6. Networking – Mary Barnhart went through the year's networking plans the committee has worked on. There are a few in the summer that need extensive planning or re-planning. Suzanne suggested thinking about simplifying by piggy backing on something already planned at a business. Next up is a Woman in Business morning meeting at the Skin Bar on March 25. Then a pancake breakfast for \$5 at Mapleland Farm on April 7th. Then an evening in May at Windy Hills Golf, tentatively planned for May 19. They will meet to finalize.
7. Tractor Parade –No report.
8. Whipple City Festival – Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 13th at 6:00 pm at the Chamber office. Andy reported that we have a parade person in place, Katie Jilek and the theme is Fairy Tales. He asked the opinion of the board to a request from a distiller in Clifton Park to come with tastings and selling bottles of whisky and vodka. After discussion it was decided against it, to keep things low key.
9. Chili Chow Down – We may not need a few Chamber members to volunteer the evening of the event on March 30th. Greenwich & Middle Falls Fire Depts. Seem to have things under control. Kathy & Suzanne will be there to help. Others are welcome.
10. Nominating –See above
11. Suzanne asked about the February meeting of the Greenwich Economic Development Group. Kathy reported that they decided to meet semi-annually and refocus their efforts to help burgeoning projects and to do more ambassador work to attract business here. Kathy asked Matt Ryan if he is still on their list of contacts and he is not. He is interested but would not be able to do morning meetings. Kathy suggested this is something that Jessica could participate in and report on to the board.

Other: After adjournment directors met informally to discuss plans for the annual meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 by a MOTION made by Suzanne Becker and seconded by Matt Ryan. MOTION carried.

The next meeting is on April 20, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Nichols-Tomkins
Secretary