

JAMESTOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Sept. 4, 2014

President Rusty Sallee called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m..

PRESENT: Executive Director John McCauley, and Board Members, Jeff Bush, Maria Flood, Kim Gregorzek, Petra Laurie, Sonya Morton-Ranney, Marilyn Munger, Rusty Sallee, Cathleen Studley, Ben Thomas, and Kristine Trocki.

ABSENT: Mark Swistak

Chamber member John Recca, invited to this Board meeting, had an opportunity to present his position following up on his previously sent letter re the “Night At” and his concerns re the event drawing from the business community during the summer season. His comments were accepted with thanks and will be considered.

The minutes of the August 7, 2014 meeting previously sent via email were accepted.

Treasurer’s report – The Treasurer’s report previously emailed was approved. 2014 Year to Date and preliminary “Night At” figures were provided.

Executive Director – John McCauley reported that Dutch Harbor Boat Yard is a new Chamber Member. Addressed and stamped Thank You cards to the sponsors and for donations to the “Night At” were divided up and passed out for each Board Member to complete and mail.

Old & New Business/Committee Reports:

Finance: Night At was a financial success, and a motion was voted on and approved to donate \$1,500 to the Conanicut Island Art Association. John will set up a time to present a “big check” and have a photo taken for the Jamestown Press. Following discussion, a motion was also voted on and approved to transfer \$3,500 from the General Fund to the Chamber Check account to help offset that liability. John will request the funding due from the Town that is allocated for off Island advertising, now that successful advertising has been arranged with SO RI and upcoming in Yankee Magazine.

Government: Rusty reported that all was quiet, although we should keep in mind the possibility for a kiosk at East Ferry and that should be discussed.

Marketing: John will set up a Marketing Committee meeting to discuss the kiosk and to work up a presentation to put forward in the Spring.

Events:

Recap- “Night At” was a great event, with a REALLY FUN BAND!! The food was great, although there was a long waiting line. There was discussion re investigating having the event go later into the night so that there is not a time pressure on the dinner time/auction/dancing. Consensus is that Fort Getty is the best venue, the summer is probably the best time for dependable weather, and that Brass Attack is a really fun band!!

Upcoming:

September 18 – Jamestown Ferry cruise. There are currently 17 rsvps and John will send out another email.

Fall – Seminar series is being coordinated by John and Jeff

October – possibly some fall “Octoberfest” event?

Dec 4 - Christmas Party at Plantation at the Bay has been booked. Our Chamber Board meeting will be held prior to the party.

Membership:

There was discussion re 2015 member dues, and it was decided that further study is needed before dues amounts are changed. John will get a Marketing and Membership meeting together to determine what we can offer as a package to help demonstrate the value of Chamber membership.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM

Next Meeting - Thursday, October 2nd, 5:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sonya Morton-Ranney
Secretary