

## **Kearsarge Area Chamber of Commerce**

Board Meeting

May 5, 2015

President Patrick Miller called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. Present were: Patrick Miller, Cheryl Johnson, President Elect, Barbara Lassonde, Secretary, Mary & Dan Watts, Directors. Absent was Mike Ayotte, Treasurer. Guests were: Camilla Devlin of the Bradford Independence Day Committee, and Ricardo Rodriguez, a home re-designer and member of Hopkinton's 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee.

Camilla Devlin explained her campaign to renew Bradford's once vibrant Independence Day celebration and requested the Chamber place an ad in their brochure. Members offered their advice on how she could promote the event.

Ricardo Rodriguez explained what Hopkinton's 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration committee is planning for May 30, to include a number of activities besides a grand parade and concluding with fireworks. He suggested several ways the Chamber could help.

Barbara Lassonde gave the Secretary's report, stating we had a wonderful Business After Hours at the Lumber Barn in Bradford, with about 30 people attending. We enjoyed hot refreshments, toured the facility and learned about what they offer and what their plans are for the future.

Patrick and Barbara attended Cyr Lumber's ribbon-cutting ceremony for the grand opening on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Patrick took part in the ceremony and that photo is now posted to our website.

Barbara and Mary have discussed the time constraints involved in producing a member e-newsletter, and decided it would be easiest for both if we send out one short article every week, with a monthly focus on: Member Spotlight, Noteworthy Happenings, New Members, Upcoming Events. The subject line would be titled KACC News Flash! Barbara said she will do her best to write one article each week, but there may be times that is impossible.

Because the Treasurer was absent, there was no Treasurer's Report.

A discussion was held regarding membership with the U.S. Chamber, and it is unclear whether our check and application have been sent in. Many members requesting the joint membership are waiting. Cheryl will check with the Treasurer to see if the application and check have been sent in.

Cheryl is still looking into a member dinner cruise on Lake Sunapee.

Patrick asked that we help spread the word that if our members "like" our Facebook page, we'll "like" them back. All agreed, and Barbara stated that could be included in the newsletter.

Patrick also stated that whenever we use the Chamber logo, we should list the towns we cover.

Cheryl made a motion that we help promote the next Business After Hours by donating up to five free memberships for new members only who attend and join that night. The motion was seconded and voted. It was stated that we now have 66 members, which is up significantly from January 31<sup>st</sup> due to our ongoing membership drive.

The President requested an opportunity to submit a report for the newsletter on membership.

A discussion was held regarding our the campaign to get restaurants to join the Chamber.

Cheryl stated that the Chamber has always sponsored the “Spring into Warner” event, and is expected to do so this year. Patrick stated that our sponsorship must include our logo in the advertising.

A request for a donation from the Warner Museum Group was discussed and tabled.

A motion was made, seconded and voted that we donate \$175 for Bradford’s Independence Day celebration.

The board reviewed the list of delinquent members to decipher who is now out of business or has moved out of the area. Members will contact those remaining and invite them to re-join.

The meeting was adjourned at 7 p.m.

Barbara Lassonde

Secretary