

Kearsarge Area Chamber of Commerce

Board Meeting

February 4, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:41 p.m. by president Patrick Miller at the Pillsbury Free Library in Warner. Present were: president elect: Cheryl Johnson, Treasurer: Mike Ayotte, Secretary: Barbara Lassonde, board members: Mary & Dan Watts, and Warner Liaison: Nancy Ladd. Mike Ayotte was welcomed to the board, and President Miller thanked the board for their continuing support.

The secretary stated that the minutes of the Annual Meeting had been approved by the board and posted on the website. A press release of our annual meeting was sent to area media, and a few ran it. Barbara stated that press releases probably should be posted on the website and/or the face book page.

She noted that she and Patrick had picked up all the leftover brochures from the Telephone Museum. A brief discussion followed regarding what to do with them.

She stated that Sugar River Bank hosted a wonderful BAH event with the Bradford Business Association, which was well attended. Everyone seemed to enjoy visiting and networking with one another, and Patrick invited the Bradford people to join our Chamber.

President Miller asked Mary to send a notice of any upcoming Business After Hours events through Constant Contact one week and again 2-3 days before the event, including RSVP directly to the host.

A Business to Consumers/Business Showcase will be held April 10 & 11 at the College of St. Mary Magdalen in Warner. The Friday night session will be primarily for Business to Business, and the Saturday session will be for the public to meet & learn about local businesses.

Nancy Ladd announced that the Spring into Warner arts festival would be held May 16 in all of downtown Warner, which will include artists of all kinds at local businesses.

There will also be a wine & cheese silent auction at the Pillsbury Free Library on March 21. This will be a fundraiser for repairs to the library.

Barbara announced that the Kearsarge Maple Festival will be held March 28 & 29, on Maple Weekend. This will include 10-12 area sugar houses open for tours and free samples; a pancake breakfast hosted by the Warner Historical Society and the United Church of Warner at the church; "sugar on snow" at the NH Telephone Museum; and a live demonstration of how the Indians made maple sugar at the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum. She is handling the publicity for the event & will include it on the website and face book page.

Patrick said he's looking for someone to host a BAH for May and June. Cheryl offered to host it at The Maples of Warner on May 19th at 5:30.

Patrick also mentioned the possibility of having a speaker sometime to talk on social media/Constant Contact. It was suggested that we survey our members as to what type of program they would like before contracting with any one.

There was an open discussion on membership, and members were asked to tell others about Chamber events and activities.

A motion was made, seconded & voted that we offer a \$10 referral discount to any member who brings in a new member. This discount will be credited to their next year's dues.

A motion was made & seconded that any current member of the Bradford Business Association who becomes a member of the KACC for the first time, will be given consideration of the \$30 dues paid to the BBA, reducing their KACC dues to just \$69 for 2015 only. A discussion ensued, then the motion passed.

Mary stated that she will be unavailable for most of March.

A discussion was held regarding instituting a sliding fee scale for micro businesses, artists & artisans. The subject was tabled.

Dan mentioned that he needs a Bradford person to add to Facebook events. He will post any new events to our Facebook page.

Patrick asked for events to be posted via Constant Contact. Mary will send a Constant Contact blurb to elicit agenda ideas and event suggestions from members.

Patrick would like to have contact people for area towns for upcoming events.

Barbara agreed to find who our contact is for the Fall Foliage Festival.

Nancy suggested we reserve Liaison input for a specific time on the agenda, so as not to tie them up too long. Any Liaison planning to speak at a meeting should notify Patrick, so as to be included on the agenda.

Cheryl asked officers to sign the signature cards for the bank accounts. She stated that there is a combined balance of \$7,246.54 in the KACC accounts.

The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, March 4th at 5:30 at Pizza Chef in Bradford.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Barbara Lassonde,
Secretary