

## **Kearsarge Area Chamber of Commerce**

### **Board Meeting**

**July 1, 2015**

The July meeting was called to order by president Patrick Miller at 5:32 p.m. at Sugar River Bank in Warner. Present were: Patrick Miller; Cheryl Johnson, president-elect; Barbara Lassonde, secretary; Dan Watts, director; and guest Jonathan Lord. Absent: Mike Ayotte, treasurer; Mary Watts, director.

The secretary reported that the minutes of the June meeting had been approved, but she has been having difficulty posting them to the website, and Dan is working on that problem.

The board met again on June 10<sup>th</sup> for a delicious dinner at Dan & Mary Watts' home followed by a sharing of ideas on what a new brochure should look like. Board members agreed to work on various segments of the brochure and bring information/ideas to this meeting.

A Business After Hours was held at the Maples on June 16, with approximately 25-30 people attending. Wonderful refreshments were served and plenty of networking took place.

The first articles of the newsletter are still pending. Mary hasn't had time to send it out.

The secretary suggested we consider hiring a part-time person to handle some of the paperwork, newsletter, emails and other chamber work, especially after Dec. 31, when Patrick, Mary & Barbara's terms expire. If they step down, their replacements may not be able to do all the work these people are currently doing.

Because the treasurer was absent, Cheryl gave his report, stating that we have \$10,089.91 in four accounts combined.

She made a motion that we close the "brochure account" and combine it with the primary account. The motion was seconded and voted.

A discussion was held regarding which bills have or have not been paid and what expenses we anticipate.

Cheryl stated that the Business After Hours at the Concord Monitor will be held July 14. The cost is \$25 per person for non-members of the Concord Chamber. Patrick will contact Tricia Ilaqua to see if we can get the same rate as Concord Chamber members. Barbara will email Tricia's contact info to Patrick.

Jonathan Lord was representing the Central NH Regional Planning Committee, and suggested we hold an educational seminar with a speaker on C-PACE, which helps developers & businesses with energy audits and grants for window replacements, insulation, etc. Patrick will contact the speaker as to her availability, and a date will be set for the event.

A discussion was held on the progress of the brochure revisions, and Barbara will send the approved wording to Dan.

Patrick stated that he will be unavailable for the August 5<sup>th</sup> board meeting date, so it was agreed that we would change that meeting to August 3<sup>rd</sup> so he can attend. Dan will confirm a meeting location.

A motion was made, seconded and voted that the July 16<sup>th</sup> Business After Hours will be at the Velvet Moose in Warner, and the Chamber will provide a free scoop of ice cream for any member or guest attending. Additional embellishments will be paid for by the person ordering it. Barbara and Cheryl will discuss this with Stephanie Hertzog and negotiate a price per serving.

BAH for August is still open, and a discussion was held regarding who we can contact to see if they may be interested in hosting it. The September BAH will be hosted by the Warner Historical Society, and the October BAH will be hosted by Cyr Lumber & Home Center.

Dan stated that we have three new members: A & M Irrigation, Knoxland Equipment Co., and MadgeTech, bringing us to 81 members.

The Renewal Campaign is well underway. Barbara has spoken with Warner Fall Foliage Festival about renewing their membership and will speak with Yankee Farmer's Market and A-Warner Storage about renewing. Patrick will try to get Follansbee Inn, Hudkins Law and Woodlawn Kennels to renew. Dan will work on Local Motion Studio, and Cheryl will work on Foothills Restaurant and Country Treasures. All of the benefits of belonging to the Chamber were reviewed and will be used to help convince businesses to join.

The Chamber website & Facebook pages were discussed, and members were asked to re-post members' posts.

The next meeting date will be August 3 at 5:30, location to be announced.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Barbara Lassonde

Secretary