

Jamestown Chamber of Commerce
Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, August 1, 2019
5:30pm
Outside at Grapes & Gourmet

Present: Will Tuttle (Sec.), Monique Paquin (Executive Director), Claudine Charron (Pres.), Jamie Munger, Susan Hackman (VP1), Charlotte McGregor, Rebecca Drzal, Ben Thomas, Iain Wilson (VP2), and Bill Piva

Guests: Andy Nota (Jamestown Town Administrator)
Barbara Szepatowski (Jamestown Community Food Bank)

1. **Call to Order:** Claudine called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.
2. **Guest:** Andy Nota: Open floor to discuss issues. Newport Business Walk was a success, but he didn't have the final report. Bill P. asked what the Town could or should do for businesses? It's tricky, to what level should the Town be involved in businesses? Welcome signs, permit help, police, sidewalk maintenance, sponsoring events, possibly fund connection to Connect Gtr Npt? Chamber could ask for greater funding, IF there is a use for it. Tax incentives are very touchy, req. guarantees & benchmarks. Grants might work better, and some bus. closures are not nec. economic in nature. Suggests Chamber might get involved in monitoring ordinances re: rentals.
3. **Guest:** Barbara Szepatowski: Food Bank will accept donations anytime. Deb Nordstrom is Pres. This is a secular effort, even though it is based at the CBC. They hold perishables, whereas St. Marks is only non-. They carry supplies and pets items, not just food. They also provide delivery, wellness checks and interaction. Upcoming golf tournament, looking for 18 sponsors @ \$100.
4. **Minutes of July's Meeting:** Previously emailed by Will. Iain made a motion to accept. Charlotte seconded. All were in favor.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Cathleen will provide the reconciliation report shortly, she was unable to attend.
6. **Executive Directors Report:** Monique reported that Barbara Szepatowski will be joining. "Welcome Book" is planned for the fall, Press is looking for \$1750 to secure sponsorship and a discount for members. And an additional amount for an insert to off-island subscribers, "Shop Local."
 - a. \$300 Chamber Check donation to the Press was made.
 - b. \$1750 for Welcome Guide: Ben made a motion to oppose, second by Iain. After solid discussion, motion was voted down 5-4.

- c. \$1750 for Welcome Guide: Will made a motion in favor of, second by Bill. After additional spirited discussion, motion was approved 5-4. Iain and Will are going to meet with Robert to discuss the project.
- d. \$250 for printing “Shop Local” insert: (\$375 less \$125 disc) Bill made a motion to accept, Jamie seconded. All in favor.

7. Old & New Business/Committee Reports:

a. Events: [Ben, Jamie, Jason, Charlotte]

- i. Weenie Roast – July 25th. Success! All who attended enjoyed. Launch rides around the harbor were provided by the boatyard.
- ii. BAH: At Grapes & Gourmet 9/12.
- iii. Jamestown Day (Sun 10/6): [Sub-committee: Will, Jamie, Jason] Update at next meeting.

b. Government Relations: [Bill, Will]

- i. 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Town Monies: \$4,000 is available. (\$2000 approved to spend on Welcome Guide and insert.)
- ii. Welcome to Jamestown Signs: Signs are in Providence and will be on the way to us .
- iii. 2019 Parking Study & Survey: Lisa Bryer sent out a draft of the survey. No changes needed.

c. Marketing/Public Relations: [Ben, Iain, Claudine, Jamie, Charlotte]

- i. JAC 2020 Outdoor Art Project: Board unanimously voted down direct support for an installation.
- ii. Live Local campaign proposed by Member (Heidi Doyle of Island Heron). “Shop Local” insert approved by Board.
- iii. Welcome Guide: discussed and sponsorship approved.
- iv. Pet Contest Calendar: support was approved.

d. Membership: [Bill]

- i. 2019 Membership Update – in ED’s report.

e. Finance: [Cathleen, Susan]

- i. No new items.

8. Board Member Terms:

a. 2017-2020

- i. Susan Hackman (First term)**
- ii. Iain Wilson (First term)**

b. 2018-2021

- i. Bill Piva (First term)**
- ii. Ernie Savastano (First term)**
- iii. Will Tuttle (First term)**
- iv. Claudine Charron (First term)**

c. 2019-2022

- i. Ben Thomas (Third term)**
- ii. Cathleen Studley (Third term)**
- iii. Jamie Munger (First term)**
- iv. Jason Hatch (First term)**
- v. Dan Dwyer (First term)**
- vi. Rebecca Drzal (First term)**
- vii. Charlotte McGregor (First term)**

9. Next Meeting: Thursday, Sept. 5, 2019, 5:30pm, at the Library.

10. Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm. Claudine made the motion, Iain second.