

Greater Hartford Area Chamber of Commerce
Meeting Minutes for December 6, 2023

- I. Meeting Called to order at 5:30 p.m.
- II. Roll Call: Stephanie, Patty, Judy, Pat, Nancy, Jane, Brad
- III. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Pat to accept minutes. Second by Patty.
All approved.
- IV. Treasurer's report

Motion to approve by Pat to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Stephanie. All approved
- V. Old Business
 - a. Strawberry Festival Rides

Looked at the proposal for a total of 15,225. We discussed about MJ Rentals still haven't heard a response from them. Talked with the owner of the Bull Ride - it would be free to the Chamber. They are from Gobles and she would charge herself per ride. Patty talked with vendors from the Grape and Harvest festival and some have contacted Patty about being part of our festival.
 - b. Chamber 501(C)3 status (nonprofit) update: The lawyer is still working on it because we had to do the long form instead of the EZ form. The government told Stephanie that it would be an easy transition with the full form.
 - c. Website changes : Patty is working on the website and would like it up and running by mid-January. Rick McNeil who we thought was volunteering to do it or help – we misunderstood and would like to be paid. The only thing Patty is questioning is the transferring of the domain. Nancy suggested that she contact customer service of the new website- they had helped her with that transfer with that process at the church.
 - d. Annual Banquet: February 12,2024 at 6 pm at El Primo restaurant - Guest speaker: Susan Zuiderveen & Todd Gustafson from Kinexus. We will spend \$200.00 on gift baskets for door prizes. The cost will be \$25 per person. Judy suggested Strawberry Shortcake for dessert
- V. New Business
 - a. Christmas in Hartford - Holiday Extravaganza boxes are out at the following locations: Hardings, Kellogg, Hartford Public Library, and Hair Forum. Volunteers for the celebration on Dec 9th from 5-7:30 pm are welcome. Jane and Dan are organizing the Parade at 5:30 with stepping off at 6 pm. Nancy and John will be Mr. Mrs. Claus. Judy said that she would come in and help select the winners from the boxes. A&A will be taking the photos, the library will print them, and the Lions club will be putting them in the folders. The Royalty will be doing crafts with the children. The library will be providing hot chocolate, cookies and candy canes. There will be an ugly Christmas sweater contest at 7 pm but no Chili cook-off because of the regulations from the health department.
 - b. Pat Vawter was looking for snow plow recommendations - Nancy said she would call Pat with the names she had at the church.
 - c. Stephanie informed us that there will be a community meeting here at the library in January to discuss the Sparks Grant for the Park.

- d. Stephanie congratulated Brad and the School on passing the Bond issue in November. Brad went into some detail about the different phases the bond issue will take over the next couple of years. He also informed Stephanie that there will be an invite coming for herself and the committee to be acknowledged on the 18th of December at the school board for their hard work. He also shared that this Thursday there will be a band and Choir concert for the High School and Middle School at 6 pm. The elementary school will have their concert on December 15th at 7 pm.
- e. The library is still collecting coats for United Christian Services. Also there is a toy collection box at the library until December 15th.

VI. Motion to adjourn at 5:30 pm. Next Meeting will be January 3, 2024 at 5:30 pm.