

**MINUTES of the
Hancock Area Chamber of Commerce
March 5, 2019**

Present: Nancy Furdock, Jeff Skelding, Dan Clark, Ken Salvestrini, Chris Gross, Dawn Joyce, Erin Mason, Jerry DaBreschia, Sherri Resti Thomas, Bill Gross, Charlene Caramore.

Minutes Submitted by Charlene Caramore

Approval of February's Minutes

The minutes for February's meeting were approved with a minor change.

Bylaws Review

The Bylaws will be reviewed at the April meeting. Nancy Furdock will send out Bill Gross's suggestions and last month's changes for the Chamber's consideration.

Membership Drive Status

So far, eleven businesses renewed their memberships for a total of \$475 in fees. Bill Gross, Erin Mason, Dawn Joyce and Charlene Caramore volunteered to organize a membership committee.

A list of current businesses in Hancock will be requested through the county. In order to appeal to new members, volunteers from the Chamber will go door-to-door informing business owners of the benefits of belonging to the Chamber and requesting their membership. Bill Gross will research the possibility of getting Chamber stickers for windows of businesses. In the future, welcome packages could be considered to give to new businesses that enroll in Chamber.

Trivia Night

The Chamber as well as Thunder 102 Radio will be sponsoring a Trivia Night on March 13 from 5:00-8:00 PM in the Hancock House Hotel. Dan Clark and Nancy Furdock will sell raffle tickets at the event. Gift certificates from the local businesses will be offered as prizes.

Bed Tax Grants Status

The Chamber submitted paperwork for one Bed Tax Grant to help subsidize the Christmas in the Square. The possibility of another grant for poles to hang banners outside of town was shelved because NYSEG informed Bill Gross that banners could be hung from already existing poles without further cost. The grants will be reviewed in mid-March and hopefully will contact recipients by the end of March.

Fundraising Events for 2019

Bill Gross submitted information on a Delaware County Top Shot Contest, a 5 station contest open to part time or full time residents of Delaware County. The event would be on October 26-27. The contest would involve 5 stations: longbow, ax throwing, pistol, rifle and shotgun. The entry fee would be \$50.00. Possible venues could be the Hancock Golf Course, one of the hunting clubs, or Bear Creek Sportsmen's Property. The necessity of a waiver of liability will be researched.

Another suggestion was a Casino Night. Erin Mason will research this possibility. It would not involve actual gambling and could be a winter or summer event.

Board of Directors Nominees

Erin Mason was voted in as a member of the Board of Directors.

Committee Vacancies

Dan Clark and Sherri Resti Thomas volunteered to work on the Advertising/Promotion Committee.

The Finance/Fundraising Committee will be comprised of Mike Argiros, Valerie Hunter, Dan Clark, and Ken Salvestrini.

Chamber Website

The Chamber website needs to be overhauled and updated. Joe Iozzi has worked on it in the past. Bill Gross will ask him if he would like to work on it again. Anyone that is not a member of the Chamber should be taken off the website or should pay to be on it which might encourage lapsed members to renew their membership. An aesthetically pleasing, inclusive and up-to-date website might encourage other businesses to join.

Other Business

The Chamber of Commerce is a corporation.

CarolAnn McGrath, mayoral candidate for the Village of Hancock, is interested in researching funding opportunities for the hiking trails and would be happy to work with the Chamber on tourism.

Our next meeting will be on April 2, 2019 at 5:30 in the FUDR Building.