



Gloucester Business Association

P.O. Box 327, Chepachet, Rhode Island 02814

Minutes of October 24, 1996 Meeting

Meeting called to order by President Nancy Chase at the Purple Cat Restaurant at 8:40 PM.

- 1.0. Treasurer's Report accepted.
 - 2.0. Secretary's Report accepted.
 - 3.0. Old Business
 - 3.1. Norma Lohr gave update on Town Council Meeting.
 - Driftway passed
 - Need representation on Blackstone Valley Commission. Requires 2 evening per month.
 - 3.2. Ed Gordon gave update on School Committee Meeting
 - Discussed miscommunication regarding origination of directory of businesses in Gloucester. Idea originated with the GBA not the School Committee.
 - 3.3. Brochures
 - Available from Kevin Kitson
 - 1,000 given to Blackstone Valley Tourism for distribution.
 - 500 were mailed to Economic Development in Providence
 - 3.4. Harmony Fire Department Tree Lighting is December 8 at 5:30.
 - 3.5. December 8 Committee Sign-Up Sheet Distributed
 - 3.6. Kevin Kitson stated that 3 hay wagons had signed up for the evening. Bill Tower also offered a haywagon for the evening.
 - 3.7. Interweb proposal for Town of Gloucester.
 - Individual businesses should meet individually with Interweb.
 - Mention was made of forming a committee to approach all businesses. No action was taken.
 - 3.8. Senators are coming to town on October 31st. Senator Chafee will be at the Job Armstrong Store. They will be using the Blackstone Valley Trolley. Want to invite members of business community. Chafee wants Input regarding boosting Gloucester as part of the Blackstone Valley Corridor.
 - 3.9. Slate of Officers was presented by Rose Lavoie:
 - President - Ed Gordon
 - Vice President - Nancy Chase
 - Secretary - Allison Tierney
 - Treasurer - Norman Tierney, Jr.
- No nomination were made from the floor. Slate accepted and unanimously approved for 1997.

4.2. Jean Bonner stated he had donated a major portion of his display to the Tower, but would withdraw his donation if Kevin's project was not approved by the GBA.
4.3. Norman Ramsey stated that the GBA had \$2,000 in reserves. He stated this project would require a fee that would be budgeted for maintenance, storage, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 10 PM

Respectfully submitted,



4.0. New Business

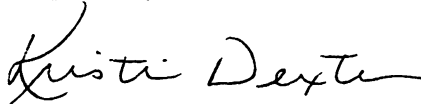
- 4.1. Kevin Kitson distributed picture of Santa he proposed to erect in town. He indicated that he thought it would be good publicity and would draw business to the town. \$2,500 to purchase. Kevin indicated he had covered all bases regarding insurance, storage, erection, etc.
- 4.2. Jean Bonner stated he had donated a major portion of his display to the Town, but would withdraw his donation if Kevin's project was not approved by the GBA.
- 4.3. Norman Tierney stated that the GBA had \$2,200 in reserve. He stated this project would require a line item within the budget for maintenance, storage, etc.
- 4.4. Two votes on project occurred:
 - (A) Approve/Reject concept of project: Yes - 19 No - 6
 - (B) Approve/Reject motion of support of project not to exceed \$1,000
Yes - 17 No - 8

5.0. Speaker - Ken Osborne, Roger Williams University: *Town-Gown Relationship*

- Cooperative education occurs on local, national and international level
- Two out of every three jobs occur within small businesses
- Finest higher education facilities are in RI - 12 colleges and universities
- What can they provide the small business owner?
i.e. in Bristol alone \$2M of income is generated from RWU alone.
Re-education and training are available; alleviation of fear of technology for the small business owner; trends in forecasting - which is vital to businesses; partnerships in high tech training; project partnerships for new product developments, etc. ; and, availability of interns/cooperative education students in areas of technology, special projects, speakers and expertise, and "make your own 'problem' a class project."

Meeting adjourned at 10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

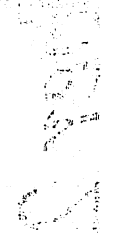


Kristin Dexter
Secretary

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