

New Hartford Business Council Meeting  
August 13, 2014

Attendees: Paul Amenta, Carol Monroe, Peg Budney, Cameron Cunningham, Donna LaPlante, Kim Hanson, Peter Bakker, Bob Switzgable, Cindy Donaldson, Peggy Bakker (guest and temporary secretary)

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

1. Treasurer's Report - Carol
  - a. See attached
  - b. Peg and Carol will meet to discuss numbers of new/renewed members
  - c. Report accepted as presented
2. No secretary report
  - a. Donna L. was not in attendance
3. Membership - Peg
  - a. Currently have 114 active paid members, 2 of which are honorary members
  - b. Report accepted as presented
4. Communications - Donna
  - a. Email sent out about next business after hours to be held August 28<sup>th</sup> at NeJaime's Package Store from 5:30 to 7:30
5. Nominating Committee - Paul
  - a. Committee is in place. Members are Greg Hoffman, Karen Leonard and Ron Miller
  - b. Committee will put together a slate of officers to be voted on in November.
6. Events - Cameron
  - a. Upcoming dates include:
    - August 28           BAH            NeJaime's Package Store
    - September 25       Membership Kickoff
    - October 28         BAH            New Hartford Fire Department
    - November ?        BAH            Pizza Petes – to be confirmed
    - December         Holiday Mingler
  - b. Committee meeting today after meeting to discuss plans for Membership Kickoff
7. Scholarship -Paul
  - a. Meeting on August 14, 2014
  - b. Getting the scholarship package in place to present to potential sponsors
  - c. 3 businesses have already committed to scholarship donations
8. Intern Program - Paul
  - a. Paul met August 12<sup>th</sup> with the school. The program will be an accredited program this year.
    - October – December ½ credit
    - October – December and Feb – April 1 credit
  - b. Open to all Juniors and Seniors but they will need to write an essay explaining why they want to be a part of the program.
  - c. School will set guidelines for the students and the businesses.
  - d. Business requirement is 15 hours per month
9. Hospitality - Paul
  - a. Paul presented Donna L.'s idea of setting up a Hospitality Committee (to work with the Membership committee) to enhance the new member experience and reinforce the importance of existing members.

10. Discussion on how to handle membership if someone has 2 businesses.
  - a. Both businesses need to be registered
  - b. A standard needs to be set up – Peggy will find out how other chambers handle this situation.
  - c. Suggestion might be to “buy one get one half off”
  - d. Will discuss further at next meeting
11. Economic Development - Cindy
  - a. Plan of conservation and development needs to be reviewed every 5 years
  - b. Email to Cindy any events your business would like to have posted so local businesses can be promoted
  - c. Discussion of EDC vs NHBC
    - EDC is supported by town money and represents the town of New Hartford, the residents and the businesses
    - NHBC represents the businesses and is self-supporting
  - d. Need to identify local businesses and encourage people to shop locally
12. Other
  - a. Paul will have a NHBC tent at the Peach Festival on August 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - b. Event to promote the NHBC scholarship September 18<sup>th</sup> at Regional
  - c. Brewfest at Sundown is September 20<sup>th</sup>
  - d. New Hartford Day is September 21<sup>st</sup> at Brodie
13. Meeting adjourned at 8:45.