

Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber of Commerce
Minutes of February 19, 2009

The sixth meeting of the Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber of Commerce Year 2008-2009 was held at Old Lyme Inn on Thursday, February 19, 2009. President Charlie Delinks presided. The meeting was called to order at 7 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by First Selectman Tim Griswold.

President Delinks recognized visiting member of the CCECT, President Tony Sheridan. President Delinks questioned those present if anyone was receiving email newsletters marked as bulk mail, or spam. There were no acknowledgements; therefore it was believed this problem was resolved.

President Delinks recognized the attendance of Heather Giffen, Meghan Whitehead (CCECT); Deb Martinez and Allison (Old Lyme Inn) for their efforts in support of reservation tracking with regard to our Chamber meetings.

The minutes of the Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber meeting of January 15, 2009 were read and accepted. Motion to accept was by Pat McCarthy; seconded by Pam Stevens. The Treasurer's report was submitted for audit. No resignations were received.

There was no Board of Directors meeting recently held; therefore there was no report.

Correspondence received: a Thank you Card from Judy Winer and Mary Haymann, PGN Library for the Chamber's support of its 212th birthday party.

Committee Reports:

- CCECT representative: Tony Sheridan – no report
- Fund-raising: Pat McCarthy / Pam Stevens / Heather Giffen – The Taste of the Lymes will be held May 3rd, 3-6 pm at the Lymes Art Association. Ticket prices: \$15 in advance; \$20 at the door. People may purchase tickets via the CCECT Chamber web site. Charge cards are accepted.
- Membership Committee – CCECT membership drive will start January 2009. Steve Ross will help coordinate these efforts. The membership committee received no new applications for approval. Total number of active members is 197.
- Scholarships: John Stratton
 - LACFA – no discussion, no action taken.
 - Rutherford Sheffield scholarship – no discussion, no action taken
- Upcoming Speakers: Cyndi Taylor – Cyndi reported the proposed guest speaker at the March 2009 Chamber meeting would be Lee Olivier from Northeast Utilities.
- Publicity: Cathy Frank – Cathy was not present; no report
- Website: George Young – the web site is up-to-date
- Adopt-A-Highway: Tim Griswold – no discussion

Old Business:

- Steve Ross reported on his progress with regard to the printing of the Destination Brochure. He will have further information and more details at the March chamber meeting. Steve reported that this brochure would be available at transportation centers along Interstate Turnpikes and train stations throughout Connecticut to attract people to the Lyme-Old Lyme demographic area. The brochure would address indoor and outdoor attractions, places to go and things to do. Expanded advertising beyond the membership would be possible, and the cost would be \$200 or less. This cost is in the process of being finalized. The expected availability of this brochure will be some time in May.

New Business: None

Old Lyme Inn Chef Chris Michaels was introduced. Mr. Michaels was featured as a guest columnist in The Nutmeg Magazine, which is authored by Old Lyme Chamber member Deb Wells. Copies of the magazine were made available to the membership present at the meeting..

Guest Speakers: First Selectman Tim Griswold, State Representative Marilyn Guiliano. Both guest speakers gave updated annual reports on the Town of Old Lyme and areas of Southeastern Connecticut. Also, discussion by State Rep Marilyn Guiliano on the progress and anticipated activity with regard to budgetary hearings for the State's 2009 budget and upcoming 2-year budget.

Motion to adjourn: Tony Sheridan; seconded by Pat McCarthy. Meeting at 912pm

Respectfully Submitted

Russ Gomes, Secretary