

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

The seventh meeting of the Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber of Commerce Year 2008-2009 was held at Old Lyme Inn on Thursday, March 19, 2009. President Charlie Delinks presided. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Pam Stevens.

President Delinks recognized visiting member of the CCECT, President Tony Sheridan. President Delinks again asked those present if anyone was receiving email newsletters marked as bulk mail, or spam; or if anyone was receiving duplicates. There was one member only who received the newsletter as bulk mail.

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. President Delinks introduced Candy Green, owner of the Old Lyme Inn.

The minutes of the Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber meeting of February 19, 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; therefore no report.

Correspondence received: A letter of gratitude was received from Tony Lynch, Boy Scouts of America. There will be an Eagle Scout ceremony on March 22nd, 2009 at the Christ the King church where President Delinks will give the recipient a plaque on behalf of the Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber of Commerce.

Committee Reports:

- CCECT representative: Tony Sheridan – Tony reported that on March 20th, 2009 Senator Dodd and Congressman Courtney would be going public to award \$175,000 earmarked for start-up incubator companies here in southeastern CT. There were no further details.
- 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. Tickets were also available at tonight's meeting and would also be available at our April membership meeting. It was also reported that eateries in East Lyme would be part of the Taste of the Lymes fundraiser this year.
- Membership Committee – CCECT membership drive started in January 2009. Steve Ross will again help coordinate these efforts. The membership committee received two new applications: Mark Brett (Mbrett Painting) and Eric & Heather Rettberg (Pizzeria DaVinci).
- Scholarships: John Stratton – John reported to all on the progress being made and highlighted some of his most recent discussions with regard to the Rutherford Sheffield scholarship and the LACFA scholarship. John also reported that there was a higher level of interest this year, possibly due to the students seeking monies due to challenging economic times.
 - LACFA –
 - Rutherford Sheffield scholarship –
- Upcoming Speakers: Cyndi Taylor – It was reported the proposed guest speaker at the April 2009 Chamber meeting would be David Handler (author) and the proposed guest speaker at the May 2009 Chamber meeting would be Lee Olivier from Northeast Utilities.
- Publicity: Cathy Frank – It was reported that Old Lyme's events has just been published and will be published every quarter. Approximately 35,000 publications will be printed. Copies of the publication were available at the guest table at this month's meeting.
- Website: George Young – no report
- Adopt-A-Highway: Tim Griswold – no report
- Destination Lyme/Old Lyme: Steve Ross, Susan Scott – Steve, Susan, and Dave Winsted spoke briefly on the Destination Lyme/Old Lyme and had available sign up sheets if anyone still wished to advertise in this publication. Expected distribution date is May 15th, 2009.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Request for funds (\$250) from Southeastern CT Visiting Nurse Association – motion by Cathy Frank; seconded by Pam Stevens; motion approved.
- Request for funds (\$250) from Old Lyme Visiting Nurse Association – motion by George Young; seconded by Pat McCarthy; motion approved.
- Request for funds (\$125) from Junior Women's Art Show – motion by Peter Mountzoures to purchase a ¼ page ad at \$125; seconded by Steve Ross; motion approved.
- Request for funds (\$200) from Lymes' Senior Center for program funds – motion by Jim Noyes; seconded by Cathy Frank; motion approved. The stipulation is that the funds are designated to the Senior Citizen annual

fundraiser and is specified to go towards Senior Center programs, not salary expenses.

President Delinks introduced Old Lyme Inn Chef Chris Michaels and thanked him for his excellence as a chef.

Guest Speaker: The guest speaker was Old Lyme Town Historian, Ned Pfeiffer who related tales of “Piracy on the Connecticut River”. Dr. Pfeiffer gave a slide presentation on the history of the town of Old Lyme. Question and answer period followed.

Motion to adjourn: Peter Mountzoures; seconded by John Stratton. Meeting at 850 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Russ Gomes, Secretary