

Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber of Commerce
Minutes of April 16, 2009

The eighth meeting of the Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber of Commerce Year 2008-2009 was held at Old Lyme Inn on Thursday, April 16, 2009. Vice President Pam Stevens presided. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Pam Stevens.

Vice President Pam Stevens recognized visiting member of the CCECT, President Tony Sheridan.

Vice President Pam Stevens recognized the attendance of Heather Giffen, Meghan Whitehead (CCECT); and Deb Martinez (CCECT) and Allison (Old Lyme Inn) for their efforts in support of logistics, and reservation tracking with regard to our Chamber meetings. Vice President Pam Stevens introduced Candy Green, owner of the Old Lyme Inn.

The minutes of the Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber meeting of March 19, 2009 were read and accepted. Motion to accept was by Steve Ross; seconded by Pat McCarthy. 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 Thank You note was received from Eagle Scout Evan Anway for plaque and co-sponsorship of a week at Camp Yawgoog this summer.

Committee Reports:

- CCECT representative: Tony Sheridan – No comment
- 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. Pam announced that the Chamber is looking for raffle gifts for its Taste of Lymes scholarship fundraising event. Roger Lake Wine Distributors will be participating in this event.
- Membership Committee – No report
- Scholarships: John Stratton – John announced to all that he would be receiving 5 applications from Lyme-Old Lyme juniors the following day (April 17th, 2009). Within the next few weeks, the scholarship committee would be meeting to review the applications and determine the scholarship recipients.
 - LACFA –
 - Rutherford Sheffield scholarship –
- Upcoming Speakers: Cyndi Taylor – It was reported the proposed guest speaker at the May 2009 Chamber meeting would be Lee Olivier from Northeast Utilities.
- Publicity: Cathy Frank – no report
- Website: George Young – no report
- Adopt-A-Highway: Tim Griswold – Selectman Tim Griswold informed all that April 25th at 9 am at the Town Hall would be the meeting place for those wishing to participate in the Chamber's bi-annual Adopt-A-Highway. A signup sheet was passed around. Tim reported that if we had at least 8 volunteers, the Adopt-A-Highway initiative would take no more than 1 hour.
- Destination Lyme/Old Lyme: Steve Ross, Susan Scott – Susan spoke to the Chamber members on the progress of the Destination Lyme/Old Lyme publication, and announced that 15,000 copies would be distributed along the I-95 corridor at the Welcome Centers in Westport, Westbrook and North Stonington. Also, they will be distributed at several train station depots.

New Business:

- Steve Ross reported that he had met with Ray Rutledge of CMARK, and has received a check in the amount of \$2,700. These are funds donated annually by CMARK because local residents are contributing clothing goods and putting them in the CMARK bins, which are located in the towns of Lyme and Old Lyme.
- Pam Stevens announced that a nominating committee has been formed consisting of Cathy Frank, Pam Uthoff and herself. They are looking for volunteers to serve on the Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber of Commerce board. Those chosen would be announced at our June 2009 full membership meeting. If anyone is interested, please contact President Charlie Delinks or members of the nominating committee.

Guest Speaker: The guest speaker was author David Handler. Mr. Handler, who was part of the original team that created the Emmy Award-winning sitcom "Kate and Allie", hails from Los Angeles and began his writing career as a journalist in New York. He is the author of eight books featuring celebrity ghostwriter Steward Hoag and his basset hound Lulu, including The Man Who Would Be F. Scott Fitzgerald, winner of the Edgar and American Mystery Awards. Mr. Handler is also the author of six books featuring the crime-fighting team of New York film critic Mitch Berger and Connecticut State trooper Desiree Mitry, including The Cold Blue Blood. Mr. Handler also published the international thriller Gideon under the pseudonym Russell Andrews. He continues to write for film and television. Question and answer period followed.

Motion to adjourn: Tim Griswold; seconded by Pat McCarthy. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Russ Gomes, Secretary