

# FRYEBURG BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

## Minutes

### **1. Call to Order/Declaration of Quorum/Welcome/Introductions:**

President Donna Woodward called the meeting to order at 5:02. With 16 voting members present, a quorum was declared for all purposes.

### **2. Secretary's Report:**

On motion of Bonnie Gould second of Wanda Richard-Cox and unanimous vote, the Minutes of January 21, 2014, were approved as presented.

### **3. Treasurer's Report:**

On Motion of Wanda Richard-Cox, second of Donna Pearce and unanimous vote, the verbal Treasurer's Report was approved as presented as having \$14,620.47 in the checking account with no outstanding bills.

### **4. Old Business**

a. Meeting with Fryeburg Select Board – see section 6.c. below

b. Website.

Donna reminded members of the budget approval of \$3000.00 for website design and hosting. Mike Corthell reported after interviews, the executive board will decide between Original Designs or Krack-Media in the coming weeks. These two businesses are very comparable in price, professionalism and knowledge. A webcam meeting is scheduled for this week. More details to follow.

c. Business – Student Program/Mentoring. A meeting was held on 4 February 2014, 1pm with Donna Woodward, Donna Pearce, Erin Mayo, and Joe Manning to discuss the potential of Fryeburg Business Association teaming with the Fryeburg Academy. Erin Mayo and Joe Manning were very excited about the new found potential relationship. Getting the junior and seniors and even the middle school students stimulated was one of the schools goals. Numerous prospects were discussed: mentorship, apprenticeship, internship, exposure, field trips, rotations through companies, high school/college prep.

Donna Woodward requested assistance with developing a survey for Fryeburg businesses to determine their interest and what they can do and what they will do (specifically for May term). School focus group will identify certain students that will be good for this pilot program. May term

is three weeks from May 19<sup>th</sup> to June 6<sup>th</sup> when the school curriculum is flexible to adapt to students visiting, working, learning at different companies with potential for summer employment. It was also discussed that during the school year students could work until 10:30am then attend classes or attend classes until 12:30pm then “work”.

Numerous points were brought up by members during the meeting:

1. Wanda requested additional members for the committee.
2. Career day to be held to teach students how to dress for success, how to interview, how to write a resume, how to complete job applications.
3. School’s jurisdiction to whether the student needs to maintain a specific GPA. Special Education students to be included in program.
4. Parent’s permission. Liability / release form.
5. Training – not just mentorship. For instance, students must be a certain age to work in food prep and food service. Special training for food services.
6. Mia Purcell mentioned Madelyn Litz from Lake Region vocational Center is participating in a work ready program. Bonnie will follow-up on this during another scheduled meeting this week.
7. South Paris Rotary has this type of program as well. Contact will be made and information obtained (do not recreate the wheel).
8. Bethel Business Association has this type of program as well. Contact will be made and information obtained (do not recreate the wheel).

## 5. New Business

- a. LinkedIn. Mia Purcell informed the group that on February 26, 2014, a presentation regarding the effective use of LinkedIn for businesses is scheduled at the Bethel Inn. Those participating will be given discount coupons for hardware and software.
  - i. A survey was conducted to Fryeburg business to determine interest in bringing a LinkedIn instructor to Fryeburg for easier access to training. One person responded.

## 6. Committee Reports

- a. Committee Assignments – See attached
- b. Membership Committee Report. Holly Foster reported that as of today, we have 109 members, 7 non-renewals from last years, 5 new members.

The executive board contacted each of the 50ish outstanding members with much success. These numbers will be accumulated and added to membership numbers.

- c. Economic Development Committee Report. President Donna Woodward informed the members of the meeting held January 9, 2014, with the Fryeburg Select board. The meeting was moderated by Glen Holmes from Western Maine Economic Development. The next meeting will be held February 20, 2014, at the Fryeburg Town Offices beginning at 6 p.m. All are invited to attend. Discussion included where and how to move forward as a community.

Rick Eastman also met with Fryeburg Airport Authority in reference to economic growth and expansion.

Brownfield funding to improve older industrial site and make them less of a liability.

DOT information signs were suggested saying Fryeburg Business Association with the website for visitors entering town to know where they can locate town information. Steve Chase will find out information.

The town CEO has posted a guide to doing business in Fryeburg on their website. Presented as having a wealth of information.

## 7. Communications

- a. Mount Washington Valley Chamber. Janice Crawford reported upcoming events are Chili Cook-off, Golf tournament, half-price membership drive.
  - b. Greater Bridgton. Winter Carnival is this weekend, 14-15<sup>th</sup> February and Freezin' for a Reason.
8. All. Holly Foster wanted everyone to be aware communications from the FBA is primarily done by e-mail and to please open your emails. David Chaffee said he would provide Mail-chimp data at the next meeting.

Kristi Harris wants to form a committee to not demolish the Red Iron Bridge. It was expressed to her the decision had been made by the state to eliminate vehicle traffic for safety reasons. Rick explained there would be liability for even a foot bridge.

Kristi Harris requested we look into a Halloween Festival where businesses could set up booths and kids could go trick or treating. Not on Halloween.

Michelle Broyer is looking for volunteers for river, forest service, May 24<sup>th</sup>, Environmental Fair, open to the public, free of charge, at Swan Falls

9. Prior to adjourning a majority vote was taken to see if an earlier time would promote better participation. 5:15 pm was decided upon for the next meeting at the Fryeburg Fairgrounds, March 11, 2014. The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m on motion of Steve Chase, second of Wanda Richard-Cox, and unanimous vote of all present.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Donna M. Pearce*

Donna M. Pearce, Secretary