



Business Meeting Minutes

January 11th, 2011

The CAB Meeting was called to order by the President, Scott Rowley, at 7:15PM. There was a quorum present. The following businesses attended: Cornish Trading Company, Sacopee Valley Eye Care, Scott Design, Cottage Treasures, Bangor Bank, The Barking Rose Quilt Barn, MacIntyre Consulting, Midway Lodging and 3 members of the Kezar Falls Business Assoc. John Phillips of Maine Trains, Dave Gilpatric of Sunshine Bible and Book and Millie Welsh of Zebra Love Graphics. Diane Perkins visited as a member of the Cornish Fairgrounds Advisory Board.

The Secretary read the minutes from the November Meeting. They were approved as read.

The Treasurer gave her report. The balance to date is \$6,606.07. The following deposits were made: Kiosk Rental \$40.00, Memory Light Donations \$134.00, Christmas Party \$950.00, 5K Race \$100.00, 5 Membership payments \$320.00. Expenses included: Lyle Plumbing-Closing Restrooms \$140.00, Scott Design-Christmas Party Invitations and Ink \$69.15, Josh Battles-Carriage Rides \$350.00, Norm MacIntyre Christmas Decorations and Song Books \$58.36, Krista's- Christmas Dinners \$1,075.00, University of Maine- Scholarship for Liam Nee \$500.00, Your Weekly Shopping Guide- Christmas in Cornish & Memory Light ads \$290.00. The treasurer also presented a historic view of the 2010 budget to give the board which will be meeting on Jan. 25th as basis for the year's budget.

Old Business

I. Christmas in Cornish- Everyone was pleased with Christmas in Cornish. The carriage rides were a big success and Josh Battle said he would do them again next year. If there is snow he will bring a sleigh. The high school choir sang in Thompson Park. They also agreed to return next year and will add strolling singers as well as the group singing in the park. Hot chocolate and cookies were served again in the park at the tree lighting and also to the carolers on Saturday. Businesses indicated that the day was well received. Next year it is hoped that more stores will take part in the festivities. There was a question about insurance with the carriage rides. CAB is insured but it will be checked to make sure that CAB is totally compliant.

II. The Brochure- What improvements could be made? It was suggested that it be made one panel larger to accommodate all the neighboring maps. It was also suggested that the photos be updated and perhaps the white carriage could be included.

III. The Kiosk- Any business can put an 8 1/2 x11 ad on the Kiosk for a \$25.00 a month charge. CAB members pay \$20.00 the list of war veterans has not been posted to date but will be up soon.

IV. Web Site- Any suggestions are most welcome. It was suggested that CAB go on Face Book but it was felt that there was not enough control with this venue.

New Business

I. What makes Cornish a drawing card?- There were several suggestions of ways to draw people to Cornish. Pike Hall has received a grant and work will begin to make the building compliant so that this great auditorium will be available for all kinds of programs. This project will probably not be finished in 2011. It was suggested that the Fairgrounds could be further used as a venue for programs in addition to the wonderful summer band concerts. Horseman's day could be better publicized and something at Halloween and an activity during the winter was also suggested. Years ago there was a Winter Carnival here. There has not been a Strawberry Festival for the last two years. This might be another Cornish Event. Local campgrounds and canoeing also provide another draw to the area. John Phillips said there is a 113 Committee looking into bringing the commercial railroad into the area.

II. Grants- It was discussed that perhaps a CAB Grant might help with some of the proposed projects. Norm MacIntyre said that he did not know of any but as a professional grant writer he would be willing to write one for CAB if the opportunity arose.

III, Benefits of joining CAB- The businesses should be made aware of what CAB does to bring business to everyone in Cornish. The web site has been a huge help in making the town more visible. Services offered here are promoted and events are listed. Be sure to add your activity. These can always be updated during the year. In addition CAB offers a graduating senior a \$500.00 scholarship each year. CAB promotes any event it receives on the web site.

IV. Honorary Memberships- It was suggested that the town selectmen be made honorary members of CAB. It was felt that this was not appropriate because they were not in the business community. CAB enjoys a good relationship with the town officials and will make a better effort to keep them informed about CAB's activities. We will be sending them a copy of our minutes beginning this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50. The CAB Board meets at the United Church of Christ on Tues. the 25th at 7PM. The next monthly meeting will be held on February 8th at the United Church of Christ.

Respectfully submitted,
Ernestine Bash, Secretary