

Greater Parish Chamber of Commerce
Meeting Minutes
Sept. 21, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Dan Dalin at 6:10 p.m. at the Grist Mill Restaurant. Present were Vice President Lillian Harter, Treasurer Charlene Dano, members Mary Lou Guindon and Janet Clerkin, and guests Chena Tucker from the SUNY Oswego Office of Business and Community Relations and Kayla Guindon.

The minutes of the Aug. 24 meeting were accepted unanimously on motion by Charlene Dano.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Charlene Dano reported the current checking account balance is \$377.19 and the current savings account balance is \$484.36. The profit from the farmers' markets was \$514.18. Motion made by Mary Lou Guindon and second by Janet Clerkin to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted. No objections.

Elves at Work: Discussion followed on possible locations for the Elves at Work project. Space is needed from Nov. 1 to the second week of December to put together bags of gifts for about 80+ families. Lillian used her house last year and can have it at her house again this year if needed. Several options were discussed. Charlene said she may have room in her basement.

Correspondence: There was no new correspondence reported.

Community Dinner: The community dinner will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 29 at the Grist Mill. There will be several dinner choices. Cost will be approximately \$13 not including tip. Several possibilities for speakers were discussed. Janet Clerkin suggested a representative from the Tug Hill Commission be invited to talk about the quality of life survey of local residents done a few years ago. Dan Dalin will contact Paul Baxter. There needs to be a slate of officers for the 2012 executive committee. Janet Clerkin said she will work on a news release for the dinner.

Newsletter: Discussion followed on the proposed community newsletter to be shared by the chamber, historical society, town and village. The village board was scheduled to vote that evening and it is expected it would be approved. The historical society has agreed to buy two pages of the newsletter for \$50/page. Oswego County Mutual will print. The town also approved the project. The mailing list will include historical society members, Parish property owners, town residents, and out-of-town property owners. Newsletter will consist of four 8 ½ x 11" sheets, printed front and back. Charlene and Lillian will help fold. Dan Dalin will submit an article for the chamber.

Fall Festival: Judges are needed for the pie-eating contest and scarecrow contest on Oct. 15. Mary Lou has postcards printed inviting vendors to participate. Lillian offered to judge the scarecrow contest. Charlene will contact the Candlelite and ask if they want to donate their time cooking if the chamber donates the food. Mary Lou is also looking for entertainment for the festival.

Tree Lighting: There are enough Christmas tree lights left over from previous years.

Friends of Parish Parks: Mary Lou reported that Friends of Parish Parks has set up a checking account. A sum of \$500 had been set aside for Parish Parks. Motion was made by Mary Lou Guindon, second by Charlene Dano, approved unanimously, to transfer \$500 to the park committee.

Guest Speaker: Chena Tucker spoke and distributed information about the services offered by the SUNY Oswego Office of Business and Community Relations. She is a Small Business Liaison and helps people through the steps of starting a small business. They also offer free and confidential business counseling, a mobile computer lab, and partnerships with National Grid and NYSERDA. They will launch an on-line class in January.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. by Charlene Dano, second by Mary Lou Guindon.