



**The Corporation for New Milford Economic Development
Board of Directors
2021 Annual Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 28, 2021, 7:30 A.M.
Via: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/330012477>**

Attending:

Mir Ahmed
Pete Bass
Oley Carpp
Adele Connor
Denise DelMastro
Alisha DiCorpo
Liba Furhman
Kristin Gizzi
Pat Hembrook
Ray Kostka
Christine Martin
Paul Murphy
Mike Nahom
Eli Noam (8:10 a.m.)

Ray Oneglia
Ivan Shiffman
Dan Stra
Jennifer Tomaino
Buck Whiteway

Also Attending:

Betsy Paynter, Executive
Assistant
Karen Pollard,
*Economic Development
Director*

Absent:

Dean Barile
Regal Patel
Adam Richichi
William Taylor
Tony Vengrove
Frank Wargo

1. Call to Order

Chairman Oley Carpp called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes of October 22, 2020

Paul Murphy moved to approve the minutes of October 22, 2020. The motion was seconded by Buck Whiteway and was unanimously approved.

3. Chairman's Report

Oley briefly reported on the Corporation's 2020 activities.

- The Facade Grant program was repurposed to serve the entire town, rather than just the Village Center District.
- Assisted local business with meeting guidelines for Covid-19, by providing plexiglass shields. Approximately \$3,000 in donations were received for the effort, which raised the Corporation's visibility in the small business community.
- A total of eight façade grants were awarded.
- The Corporation worked with the Town to devise a Sewer Incentive Program.
- A virtual job fair using Indeed's on-line platform was held. Over 220 area residents participated. The program was possible due to a donation from Litchfield Crossings.

Oley said he is looking forward to 2021 to work on similar projects and for the Corporation to "sink its teeth" into larger projects.

4. Treasurer's Report

A. Treasurer Ray Kostka reported that balances in the accounts are as follows:

- a. Cash on hand - \$33,830.13
- b. Micro loan Account - \$20,845.34
- c. Façade Account - \$9,079.31

B. Resolution re: Check Signatories

Oley said that the resolution allows for three signers on the Corporation's accounts – himself as Chairman, Ray Kostka as Treasurer, and Ivan Shiffman, as Vice President. Ivan said that he is unable to serve as a signatory on the checking accounts due to his position at work. Denise DelMastro said she would be able to take on the responsibility.

Liba Furhman recommended that the resolution be amended to include all Corporation bank accounts.

Liba moved the resolution as presented, with Ivan's name replaced by Denise, and the addition of all Corporation bank accounts. The motion was seconded by Denise and passed unanimously.

C. 2021 Budget

Oley reported that this budget is reflective of what the Board discussed in October, and is before the Board for approval.

Ivan moved to adopt the proposed 2021 Corporation Budget. The motion was seconded by Buck. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Nomination and Election of Board Members for the Class of 2022

Oley introduced two candidates for Board membership, Jennifer Tomaino, Vice President and Head of Treasury Services at Union Savings Bank, and Alisha DiCorpo, Interim Superintendent of New Milford Public Schools.

Mayor Pete Bass moved their nomination for Board members of the Corporation for the Class of 2022. Ray Kostka seconded the nominations and Jennifer and Alisha were thereby elected Board members of the Corporation.

6. Nomination and Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members

A slate of the following Officers and Executive Committee members was presented:

Officers

Chairman: Oley Carpp

Treasurer: Raymond S. Kostka, Jr.

Vice Chairman: Ivan Shiffman

Secretary: Liba Fuhrman

2021 Executive Committee Members

Ex-Officio: Frank Wargo

Member: Denise DelMastro

Ex-Officio: Paul Murphy

Member: Mike Nahom

Ex-Officio: Bill Taylor

Member: Tony Vengrove

Ex-Officio: Pete Bass

Mayor Bass moved the recommended slate for Officers and Executive Committee Members of the Corporation. Buck seconded the nominations and the recommended slate was thereby elected.

7. Meeting Schedule for 2021

Oley presented the Corporation's Meeting Schedule for 2021

8. Action Plan for 2021

Oley wanted to delineate committees and who was associated with them as follows:

- a) Governance: Ivan Shiffman
- b) Awards Event: Liba Furhman
Liba spoke about the "Best of the Best" Awards Presentation that was slated for the evening, encouraging members to attend.
- c) Finance Committee: Ray Kostka, Mike Nahom
- d) Development Committee: Ivan Shiffman, Kristen Gizzi, Ray Oneglia
- e) Sewer Incentive Committee: Paul Murphy, Mir Ahmed

Oley said the Communications Committee may need to be reinstated

The 2021 activities are broken out into four categories:

- 1. Increase Business Development and Support
- 2. Maximize Marketing and Public Relations
- 3. Develop Community Partnerships and Improvements
- 4. Strengthen the Organization

Corporation members discussed a number of ideas including an Ultimate New Milford Food Festival with an Ultimate New Milford Cookbook.

Karen said Ultimate New Milford had people making expenditures at small businesses. They would then send in their receipts and be entered into a contest to win gift certificates. Ray Oneglia committed \$1,000 to support this program.

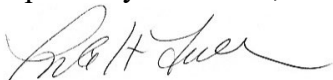
Betsy Paynter suggested "Take-out Tuesday" to give restaurants mid-week support.

Another idea is for a Business Start-Up Boot Camp, partnering with the Small Business Development Center. There are programs on the website already. Dan Stra expressed interest in assisting with this project.

9. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Nahom. The motion was seconded by Buck and was carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Liba Furhman, Secretary