



The Corporation for New Milford Economic Development

Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 27, 2023, 7:30 a.m.

New Milford Public Library, New Milford

Attending:

Mir Ahmed
Geoff Ball
Dean Barile
Oley Carpp
Adele Connor
Denise DelMastro
Liba Furhman
Kristin Gizzi
Holly Hollander
Ray Kostka
Paul Murphy
Mike Nahom
Eli Noam
Ray Oneglia
Tony Vengrove
Buck Whiteway

Absent:

Pete Bass
Pat Hembrook
Regal Patel
Adam Richichi
Ivan Shiffman
Dan Stra
William Taylor

Also Attending:

Stephanie Barksdale, Executive
Assistant
Denise Martens, New Milford
Library
Mike Vochis, Guest
Alessandro Piovezahn and Darren
Benham, Hunt Hill Farm

1. Call to Order

Chairman Oley Carpp called the meeting to order at 7:38 a.m.

2. Approval of the Minutes of January 26, 2023

It was noted that there was a typo in Item 6, Meeting Schedule. It should read 2023. Ray Oneglia moved to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2023 meeting with said correction. The motion was seconded by Buck Whiteway. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Chairman's Report

Oley welcomed Board members to the library. He asked them to keep him abreast of news concerning other members.

He introduced Denise Martens, MLS, Public Services Librarian who gave an overview of library services and answered questions.

Alessandro Piovezahn of Hunt Hill Farm also addressed the Board, presenting the history of the Farm, his background and involvement with the nonprofit. He also talked about the various programs at the Farm and of upcoming capital improvements to make the facility into a community asset for events and additional ventures.

4. Treasurer's Report

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

- a) Cash - \$ 56,698.74 (includes \$1,650 restricted funds for Riverfest)
- b) Micro loan Account - \$ 952.16
- c) Façade Account \$ 12,326.31

There was discussion about hiring a collection agency to deal with outstanding loans. It was decided to get Town Attorney Randy DiBella's input.

Denise Del Mastro moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Mike Nahom and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Nomination & Election of New Members

Oley said that he has received a resignation letter from Alisha DiCorpo and was presenting Dr. Janet Parlato, Superintendent of Schools to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

Liba Fuhman moved to nominate the Janet Parlato to fill the vacant Board seat. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Old Business

Committee Reports:

Business Development and Support:

- Ray K. reported that two additional ARPA grants have been approved and two were declined for not meeting requirements.
- Danbury Savings Bank has made a \$2,000 CRA gift.

Community Partnerships & Improvements:

- Liba reported that she had met via zoom with Ray O. and Kristen Gizzi. They are invited to attend the upcoming Riverfront Revitalization Committee Meeting, at which the Town's Consultant will be discussing plans with members.
- Riverfest will be held September 30 and October 1.
- Liba joined Oley in meeting with Consultant Dale Kroop and the Mayor in looking at the Riverfront and other potential Town projects.

Marketing and Public Relations:

Tony reported that he was still looking for space for the Pop-Up. Adele suggested holding an informational meeting to expand interest in the project

7. New Business (8:50 - 9:00)

- **The Silo, DECA and CNMED**

There have been discussions with The Silo (Hunt Hill Farm) and the New Milford School Systems DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America, Incorporated) chapter about working together and operating The Silo Store. There may be a role for the Corporation members to assist in this endeavor.

- **Best of Awards Ceremony - February 2024**

There was brief discussion as to where and when to hold the annual Best of the Best event.

8. Adjournment

Ray K. moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 a.m. The motion was seconded by Tony and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Liba Furhman', written in black ink.

Liba Furhman, Secretary