

Town of Sturbridge  
Sturbridge Tourist Association  
Meeting Minutes  
Jan 4,2011  
Sturbridge Town Hall 6:45 PM

Present: Dick Vaughn, Brian Amedy, Kevin MacConnell, Joni Light, absent Chris Rovezzi, Priscilla Gimas and Michael Harrington.  
The meeting was called to order at 6:45pm

**Minutes:** The minutes from the December meeting were reviewed and Brian Amedy made a motion to accept the minutes as written with Joni Light seconded. The vote was 4-0 to accept the minutes as written.

**Treasurer Update:** The treasurer's report was reviewed with Joni noting a 2011 revolving fund balance of \$6395 which came back to us from the Harvest Festival event. She also noted there was \$2216 not yet spent from the Harvest Festival and she would follow up with Alix McNitt of the Chamber to see if there were any bills still to come. Brian Amedy made a motion to accept the report as written with Kevin MacConnell seconded. The vote was 4-0 to accept the report as written.

**Agenda Business:**

Feast and Fire Update: Dick Vaughn would still like to see an event with STA as sponsor. He will get together with Michael Harrington to see what interest the Publick House has and also with Chris Rovezzi in what interest the restaurants would have. He also mentioned the possibility of the Mummers who he is involved with about the possibility of a concert for a fee. He also mentioned possibility of STA underwriting and selling food tickets where STA could profit from it. Joni was against this as we had this issue in the previous year when the Merchants group wanted money to purchase food for last years event. Tom Cramer our Liaison also cautioned against this as a possible Conflict of Interest violation. Kevin also mentioned about a Fire Circus group and a Militia Group. A decision will be made at the February 1st meeting when more information about interest will be brought forward.

Next Jennifer Harwich of the Chambers Tourism committee informed the board the Chamber was working on a Restaurant Week Event to take place late March of early April. It would be a week long event with Restaurants featuring meals at a special price. This would be similar to Events in Boston, Providence and Newport. This would feature Sturbridge as a Culinary Center. There would be the possibility of the Hotels offering overnight packages and also getting the Merchants involved. More information will become available as plans are finalized.

Next Brian Amedy discussed the possibility of an Open Forum meeting. The idea was to inform the business and community about who STA is and how they can possibly help them. It would be a way of introducing ideas and open the lines of communication. It would also be a good forum to announce our Cable TV plan. The board thought it was a good idea and we will all think about

how we want to go about presenting this and have a decision at our February meeting.

Next Dick Vaughn gave the latest Comcast Cable TV update. Terisa Sabatini would not be available to speak to us at an evening meeting about how everything would work. Dick will contact her to see if she could possibly meet with us on a Saturday to discuss the plan. He will let the board know at the next meeting or sooner if he can arrange it.

Next was the Budget Plan for 2012. Dick spoke with Kevin Smith of the Finance Committee about exactly what they would be looking for from STA when we make our budget presentation to them. Dick will do an overview letter to Kevin's e-mail response and present it to us at the February meeting. Dick will also e-mail us copies of Kevin's e-mail.

There was no additional new business.

**Old Business:** Joni received a bill from Alix McNitt of the Chamber for \$115 which was for a bathroom repair in the Information Centers bathroom. This amount represented 35% of the total cost of the repair. Joni was not sure how to handle it as she was not sure if this fell under repair and maintenance. She will review with Alix and if it does she will pay it.

Brian Amedy made a motion to adjourn and Joni Light second.

Meeting adjourned 7:58 pm

Sincerely,

Brian Amedy