

AUGUST 9, 2023, TOURISM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Common Council Room, City Hall 7:00pm

*Roll Call: Dan Vankleek, Mike Meyer, Jackie Smith, Tucker, Terry Constantino, Sean Addy, Robert Bloomer, Jin Pang, Maria Mann, Laura Meyer *guests: Laura Quick/ City Clerk, Rachel Levich / Tri State Chamber

*City Clerk, Laura Quick handed out financial reports to all members, Port Jervis Tourism. Reviewed Treasurers report.

Laura Q. suggested we appoint a secretary. Briefly discussed. *Jackie Smith to become Secretary, beginning September.

Laura Q. wish also create vouchers for submitting invoices. Also suggested 2 signatures for vouchers.

*Robert Bloomer & Laura Meyer to be signees.

*Tri State Chamber to team up with the Tourism Board & bring back the *Downtown Spooktacular, October 28th, 4:30pm Downtown.

Chamber to involve all businesses in the city. Storefront decorating contest. Scarecrow Contest. Businesses not downtown can participate downtown regarding their business. Tourism to decorate. cornstalks. decorations. Face painter. Balloon sculpture? Possible Scavenger Hunt?

*Bella Notte Italiana - August 12th 3 to 9 Orange Square
Decorate Friday 6:00pm, set up Saturday morning 9:00am
Smith Tent to begin set up Thursday.

Tables & chairs in Police trailer. 3 DPW workers to begin at 12:00pm.
Advertising for event under \$800.

*Fall Foliage Festival, September 24th 10 to 5 downtown
Laura to order Port a Johns.

Discussed moving all Food Vendors for 2024 to Municipal Parking Lot for a food Courtyard. Dan V. said it would be a problem for St. Mary's. Need to find out more info. Would not be taking over the entire parking lot, only a section to be used.

Sean A. said he was contacted by Dejay Birtch, a business owner downtown. He wants the Tourism Board to change the 30-year event & have all the vendors moved to the center of the street. Continue down Jersey Avenue to Church St. so his/ businesses have exposure that day. It was discussed heavily & passionately of all the reasons why in cannot be done.

Road isn't wide enough for vendors vehicles to fit & drive thru. Roads wouldn't be wide enough for safety precautions / emergency vehicle to fit thru. (Ambulances, fire trucks, etc.) Electric accessibility for vendor requirements. General traffic to be rerouted thru the city for the extension. (Jersey Ave. & Fowler St. is a major intersection.) The Tourism Board members said no change.

Sidewalks are not blocked during the event. All crosswalks are accessible. It's 1 day out of the year. Mr. Birtch's business is open 5 hours on Sundays. He does not feel any business should pay to participate at the event. Laura mentioned the Board change that

years ago when businesses did not take advantage of the space allocated, or allowed someone else to use the space that wasn't a paying vendor,

*Halloween Lighting Contest: Melissa N. was selected to run the contest.

*Christkindlmarkt - November 26th, 10 to 5 Downtown

Applications to be available after Italian Festival.

Stan Cohen to volunteer with the Horses & wagon during the event with downtown Port Jervis history.

Meeting end: 7:47pm