

CITY OF PORT JERVIS

P.O. BOX 1002
20 HAMMOND STREET
PORT JERVIS, NEW YORK 12771



Tourism Board Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Conference Room of the Mayor's Office

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Laura Meyer.

Roll Call:

Members: Laura Meyer - Chairperson, Robert Bloomer, Tucker Enright, Councilwoman Melissa Newhauser, Sean Addy, Mike Meyer, Jackie Smith, Theresa Balogh, Councilwoman Maria Mann - Council Liaison, Councilman Regis Foster

Public: Rachel Levitz - Tri-State Chamber of Commerce

Public Comment: None

Italian Festival:

The next Bella Notte Italiana Festival will be held on August 17, 2024.

Laura requested the Board review this year's Italian Festival and asked if anyone has suggestions for changes that should be made for next year. The Board felt the entertainment was good and that the entertainers were pleased with the sound company.

Fall Foliage Festival:

Laura and Mike are picking up corn stalks (50) to be placed on the light poles on Pike Street and Front Street. Laura asked for volunteers to meet this Friday evening to carry this out. Several committee members volunteered.

Laura previously sent an email to the Board about advertising for the event taking place on September 24, 2023 and asked for input. The Board agreed to advertising for the event in the same manner that was done in previous years.

Catherine Westfall graciously collected donations from local businesses to sponsor T-shirts for the Tourism Board members. The T-shirts were distributed to the members present. The remainder of the T-shirts will be sold at the Tourism Board tent at the Fall Foliage Festival.

Laura Meyer informed the Board that portable restrooms have been ordered. One will be placed at the A/V Outlet, one will be placed by M & T Bank, and two will be placed by the Erie Restaurant - one of these is handicapped accessible.

Laura reviewed the different bands, the petting zoo, stunt bike driver, and dancers that will be performing at the festival. Trophies have been purchased for the car show and volunteers were secured for parking and judging the cars.

Halloween Lighting Contest:

A flier will be created and prizes will be secured for this year's Halloween Lighting Contest. The categories will be "Traditional" and "Scary" as in previous years. Judging will take place on October 20th.

Downtown Spooktacular:

This event will take place on October 28, 2023 starting at 4:30pm on Front Street between Fowler Street and Sussex Street. The Board agreed to hiring a face painter and a balloon artist for this event. A member suggested having Halloween music play on the speakers downtown. It was confirmed that decorations previously used for this event are in the basement at the Farnum Building.

Scavenger Hunt:

This event was discussed last month and a member offered to make contact with a Port Jervis resident who ran a scavenger hunt to find out how to carry out an event like this. To date, no information was provided. It was decided that another member would reach out to the resident for the information.

Chriskindlmarkt:

This event will take place on November 26, 2023 on Front Street between Fowler Street and Sussex Street. Vendors will be outdoors and indoors at the Erie Trackside. Laura informed the Board that the horse and carriage vendor and "Hilby the German Juggle Boy" have been secured for this festival.

Holiday Lighting Contest:

Details for this contest will be discussed at future meetings.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 7:48pm made by Robert Bloomer, seconded by Tucker Enright.

Next Tourism Board Meeting will be held on October 11, 2023