



**Sandwich Business
Group**

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**Sandwich Business Group September Meeting
September 9th, 2019 Corner House Inn**

Present: Gunnar Berg, Vicky Galkina, Wendy Shambaugh, Jon Greenawalt, Don Brown, Diane Johnson, Susan Davis, MaryAnn Schmidt, Susan Rozelle, Will Lehmann, Dick Seery

Call to Order 8:41 AM.

Welcome to Visitors:

Justin Chapman and Jeremy Hilger of Sandwich Central School stopped by with a student and were presented with a check from the House Tour. SBG collected \$1,300 in donations to help pay for the sixth graders trip to DC in March. Wendy thanked everyone who volunteered for the event.

Minutes reviewed and accepted.

Treasurer's Report reviewed and accepted.

Ongoing Business:

1. Don B. shared the results of the Shredding Event that took place on July 27th. We had good attendance with 30 people stopping by. The total cost was \$1,145. Don also mentioned that going forward the funding for the event would have to be processed differently, so SBG needed to decide by November whether we would be holding a similar event next year. The Town of Tamworth might participate and split the cost with us in 2020.
2. Wendy gave an update on the Sign Project. She contacted 6 SBG members that are contractors, and 3 of them offered to supply wood planks for the signs. Local businesses that want to have their signs updated would contribute \$10 to cover the cost of vinyl lettering. Wendy plans to have the signs painted and assembled in October.
3. Dick gave a progress report on the Scenic Byway Initiative. The Committee met with the Town Selectmen who were receptive to the project. The current plan is to install two canvas banners on Route 25 at the intersection with Little Pond Road to direct vehicular traffic to the town center and local businesses. Consolidated Communications gave the Committee permission to place

banners on their utility posts. Dick is talking to a local printshop in Center Harbor and will share final pricing details once they become available. There was some discussion on what image would be best suited to represent Sandwich. It was suggested that we involve the entire SBG community in this decision vs just the Committee. A progress report will be shared with members soliciting ideas/feedback on the imagery for the banners.

New Business:

1. Wendy asked to add several items to October Meeting Agenda. SBG needs to discuss membership fees as invoice letters go out in November. Wendy is stepping down as the Group's Treasurer in December. Please reach out SBG leadership if interested in the Treasurer's position. Wendy will assist with training and continue to be available as a resource.
2. Jon wanted to discuss setting some goals for the Group for the coming year. Wendy suggested creating a survey asking SBG members for feedback on the goals and areas of attention outlined by Jon. Motion was made, seconded and accepted to create a Survey Committee that will compile ideas, formulate the survey questions and gather feedback. The Committee will consist of Jon, Dick and Mary-Ann.
3. Jon shared an update from Janina who was unable to attend the meeting. Janine is looking for additional advertising sponsors for DiscoverSandwich website. The annual cost works out to \$8 a month. Please reach out to Janina if interested. She also brought up that SBG needs to consider marketing and collaborating on a wider scale than just Sandwich and possibly teaming up with neighboring towns like Tamworth. Another item worthy of the Group's attention is the Broadband Service Initiative. Should SBG offer support for this project?
4. Lexi provided an update on the Corner House. The restaurant had a complex yet successful summer. Corner House needs front of house staff and looks forward to your patronage through winter. Lexi is also looking for housing for J1 Visa holders next summer and would like to explore options through fall and winter. Corner House just welcomed Chefs Stevie Mitchell and Jed Dole and debuted a new fall menu this past week.

Meeting adjourned at 9:53 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Vicky Galkina, Secretary.