

SIMSBURY TOURISM COMMITTEE
"Heritage, Charm, Adventure"
12 Madison Lane, Simsbury
Meeting, Monday, Dec. 19, 2016 7:30 pm

Attendance: Diane Phillips, Rick Wagner, Joe Buda, Paulette Clark, J.P. Dragon, Joyce Howard, Charmaine Seavy, Liz Banco, Pat Carbone, Dominique Avery, Kathy Oakes, John Hampton.

1. Pot Luck Holiday 7:00pm followed by Official Call to Order at 7:36pm
2. Review and approval of minutes of Nov. 15, 2016

3. Old Business and Updates

- A. Committee Membership was discussed and the status of Jan & JP. Joe has been officially sworn in, Leadership will be determined next meeting. Dominique is still Acting Chair.
- B. Jan is finishing up 2017 meeting locations for 2017 . Full list will be available at next meeting at Millwrights. All meetings will be at 7pm
- C. The committee will choose a March weekday date ASAP or the workshop for non-profits on using the State tourism website at Library Technology room. 20 computer places are available.
- D. Kathy reported on the State Tourism Listening Tour at Mark Twain House. It was informative, but state is very dependent on local groups for input for website.
- E. Joe reported on the very successful Simsbury Holiday Market & Village and asked for suggestions for the future. It was well-attended and each venue a big success. The vendors tent had some problems and they will work on some changes. It will be an annual event. The Swedish XMAS event was so successful that SHS may follow up with different country themed XMAS events and more music.
- F. Paulette reported on Simsbury Celebrates and the return of the Gingerbread Houses Contest which was a big hit. The weather cooperated and the attendance was fantastic.
- G. Town officially approved the DEEP grant for the bike trail from the Greenway to Curtiss Park with a ribbon-cutting to be held in January.

4. New Business

- A. Suggestion that we brainstorm ideas for local events from Jan. to March which is a dead time.
- B. Joe Buda has asked that we come up with succinct new words or phrase to describe Simsbury for use by non-profits in press releases. And focus on PR kit for everyone's use to help get publicity.

5. Tourism Page on Town Website update:

- A. Kathy Oakes reported on her meeting with Rick Bazzano regarding the restaurant list and the list of places to obtain Simsbury gifts and merchandise. They discussed the changes and updating of the website. Kathy agreed to be the liaison to work with Rick on our page.
- B. Town has called for our submission for Annual Report by Feb. 8. Dominique will write.

6. Meeting was adjourned at 9:18

Next meeting January 17 (Tuesday) at 7:00pm (private room upstairs) at Millwrights – 77 West St.

Submitted by Pat Carbone