

# **TOURISM COMMITTEE**

City of Port Jervis

## **Common Council Chambers**

**Wednesday, February 12, 2020 7:00PM**

**Laura Meyer**

Committee Chairman

**John V. Faggione**

Director of Recreation

**Council Liaison**

**Maria Mann**

### **Committee Members**

Todd Kowinsky Christine Addy Brook Csencsits Regis Foster William Schill Ann Foster Mike Meyer  
Catherine Westfall Robert Bloomer Jennifer Foster Kathy Potter Chandler Campbell Theresa Balogh  
George Belcher Jin Pang Melissa Hernandez-Newhauser Angela Castellano

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**Meeting called to order at 7:00PM**

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:** Mayor Kelly B. Decker, Director of Recreation John V. Faggione, Councilwoman Chandler Campbell, Councilman Timothy Simmons, Councilwoman at Large Lisa M. Randazzo-Misczuk, Councilwoman Maria Mann, Councilman Regis Foster, Laura Meyer, Jin P, Todd Kowinsky, Ann Foster, Mike Meyer, Robert Bloomer, Jennifer Foster, Angela Castellano, Theresa Balogh and Melissa Hernandez-Newhauser

Members of the public: None Present

**Public Comment: None**

## **Old Business – Minuets Approved**

A motion was made by Todd seconded by Bob to approve the minuets of the January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 tourism meeting.

AYE: 4 ABSENT:6 NAYS:0 ABSTAIN: 8 (Robert Bloomer, Jennifer Foster, Ann, Foster, Angela Castellano, Theresa Balogh, Melissa Hernandez Newhauser, & Mike Meyer) CARRIED

## **Roaring into the 20's**

Laura discussed the new event roaring into the 20's as the event application has been submitted and has not been approved by the common council. She has a date set with the Erie Trackside Manor for August 8, 2020. Some concerns were of it being a fund raiser which is not permissible by the city and that it may not be an event, as well as further details were needed. We are not allowed to show a profit stated Mayor Decker and Councilman Simmons further elaborated. All in attendance felt it would be a great event and Tim stated we are all trying to help and are willing to work with everyone but there is need of clarification. Laura stated that it would not be a fundraiser but would like to set a price per person per meal, the event would be held at the Erie Trackside Manor. She would like to have antique cars from the era, a jazz band and ask that those attending would dress up as well. John and Chandler suggested having further discussions with the Mayor on this matter. Mayor Decker suggested to contact the Outdoor Club and work with them on this event. Laura needs to have the event approved to move forward. The event has been tabled until more details have been made available to the committee.

## **John B. Jervis Day**

Laura suggested calling it Founders Day instead of John B. Jervis Day. This event would be planned for 2021 a location suggested by Mayor Decker was near the turntable located at 100 Pike Plaza. Maria would like to see the event showcase the history of Port Jervis as it has never been done. Some members felt that the location needed to be more presentable prior to holding the event and that the train cars need sprucing up. Councilwoman at Large Randazzo suggested getting the kids from our local schools involved as well as the local historic society. She also made mention of history tours that are done by Mayor Decker during the summer and had good attendance. Lisa also made mention that many adults showed interest in attending these historic tours as it is limited to children. This event will be discussed further at the upcoming tourism meetings.

## **Chinese New Year Update**

Review of the Chinese New Year event which was held on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Jin's concerns were the lack of attendance and felt they were due to the coronavirus outbreak. She hopes that next year we will have a better turn out. Jin thanked the committee and stated that those that did attend enjoyed the festivities and would like to plan

earlier next year. A total of \$200.00 was spent on advertising, confetti, and gold coined chocolate candies for the event.

### **St. Patrick's Day Parade Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Laura stated that the Milford Boro Police contacted her and confirmed they were coming, possible with horses. Maria reached out to the Minisink JROTC. She received a response from the JROTC leader they are willing to attend and volunteer where needed, especially for crowd control. Laura researched the cost of the trophies for the parade. The cost is estimated to be between \$22.50 and \$25.00 for each trophy. A motion was made by Mike to approve a total of \$150.00 and seconded by Angela for the cost of the trophies all committee members present were in favor. Laura would like to add several other categories, best float, best marching group, best fire department, best law enforcement. Maria suggested a grand marshals choice in memory of former Grand Marshal Mr. Michael McCarthy Laura concurred. She suggested possibly 5 trophies with three judges who she selected Mayor Decker, Laura Meyer and Maria. Maria asked if anyone else had interest in being a judge, no one responded. Todd made a motion to approve the three judges and was seconded by Jen. All committee members were in favor. Laura has beads to distribute and to hand out for the parade. She also asked Maria if she could make up the no parking signs ordered by the PJPD and to request no parking after 1:00PM. Maria will design and print the no parking signs.

Further discussion will be reviewed for banners to be placed through the city in the kiosks for the parade. John would order four one sided banners and requested the file of the design be emailed to him by Maria. Maria presented a copy of the design and was approved by the committee. John asked about the procedures if one wanted to march in the parade as the Outdoor Club is interested in participating. Laura welcomed them to join us as well as the committee. John stated that Betsy Gardner will be contacting Laura to work out the details.

Maria mentioned that she was contacted by Matt Fuller who is a DJ and offered his services for the parade at no charge. The name of his business is DJ Rock A Fuller. Laura asked if he could play Irish music. The committee was in favor of his services. Maria will reach out to him and have him work out the details with Laura.

Laura asked Maria the cost of the Broome St. Band. Maria stated the fee would be the same as last year \$250.00. She asked if they would consider a lesser amount. Bob stated that he would like to abstain as all events happen downtown and not on Pike St. and that the HDMA and the businesses downtown only benefit. Maria explained to Bob that the HDMA has no involvement in the parade this year and was a co-sponsor last year who donated monetary funds towards last year's parade. She also mentioned that last year's application route request was to start on Pike Street. The departments heads decided the route will start at 100 Pike Plaza. Chandler and John mentioned since the parade is fairly new let's see if it grows and possibly request the route be extended in the near future. The city has taken over the parade.

A motion was made by Angela to approve the cost of \$250.00 for the Broome St. Band and seconded by Mike all were in favor and one abstention by Bob.

### **Citywide Yard sale May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**

Laura asked for help with advertising and suggested to get more sponsors. Permits should be required for people to have yard sales and this should be enforced. Bob did ask for help to drum up possible new businesses to advertise and offered his services to work on the map as he has done in years past.

### **Art in the Park**

Laura spoke with Bill Schill who is away on vacation and stated that art in the park will be cancelled. The artist would like it to focus on the arts and not incorporate history in the park. Maria stated that she would hate not to see the event happen and wait until Bill returns to have further discussion. The committee agreed and has been tabled until Bill returns from vacation.

### **Carnival**

Todd has been in touch with the carnival owners and will be having another meeting with them. The dates for this year's carnival will be on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and the 12<sup>th</sup> located at Riverside Park. Todd is also looking into possibly having a circus in Port Jervis for late July or August. He estimated the cost to be between \$300.00 and \$500.00 for the circus and will return with further details, hopefully at next month's meeting.

### **Fall Foliage Festival September 27<sup>th</sup> 2020**

Laura mentioned that bands are already contacting her to book the fall foliage festival, Night Cap, Glory Band, Side FX, Rich Ridge band and Armonia. Nite Cap played at the fireman's day parade. Chandler will also reach out to the band called The Black Dirt Bandits for pricing and availability. Laura is looking at a petting zoo that attended National Night Out, from Sugar Farms, the cost would be approximately \$800.00. She also asked if the committee is interested in having Chris Clark return he puts on a bike show. The antique car show would be moved to the municipal parking lot which is located across from St. Mary's Church this year.

### **Whoville Returns to Port & Spooktacular**

Maria inquired about these two events as the event applications have not been submitted yet. Laura mentioned that she was unsure if she wanted to hold the event again this year. She received several private messages with regards to Whoville that a woman was displeased because the Grinch did not speak to her or her dog. Maria stated that the Grinch started makeup at 4:30AM and did not stop until well after 7:00PM. He also stayed outside for over 3 hours taking photos with hundreds of people out in the cold. John asked what the cost for the event was to the public and Laura stated it was a free event. It was discussed that Spooktacular will be held downtown after the Halloween Parade. These events were tabled and will be revisited by the committee at next month's meeting.

### **City Rack Cards**

Laura asked Maria if it was ok to discuss the design of the city rack cards, she said of course. Peter Carafano contacted her several times from NY vacation planning and would like to set up an appointment to meet so they can discuss advertising for the city. The city had rack cards with a listing of all the events for the remainder of 2019 located at the visitor center on the NYS Thruway located in Sloatsburg which is the busiest rest stop in NYS. Maria stated that she has 80% of the redesign completed but did not finish due to pending events.

Maria asked how many cards would be ordered and Laura mentioned that last year she had many left over but that the cost for the additional cards was \$30.00. Since all events have not been approved with some in question John suggested to make two cards one for winter and another for spring.

### **New Business**

Ann asked Laura what event applications have been submitted and to give an update on what is happening this year. Ann also offered to help Laura and to have Laura delegate people to help her. Laura does a lot and takes on just about all the responsibilities. Chandler suggested starting an email thread to all the committee members with tourism happenings.

### **Approved Events by the Common Council as of January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Chinese New Year February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020, St. Patrick's Day Parade March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020, PBA 5k April 26<sup>th</sup> 2020, Citywide Yard sale May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020, Fall Foliage Festival September 27<sup>th</sup> 2020, Monsters on the Mountain October 17<sup>th</sup> 2020, & Christkindl mart November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

### **Notify DPW**

Maria suggested contacting the DPW two weeks prior to any tourism events. Laura said she always contacts the DPW prior to events.

### **Tourism Recording Secretary**

The tourism committee was in need of a recording secretary to take minutes and provide the monthly agendas. Ann offered her services. A motion was made by Regis and seconded by Chandler to appoint Ann as the new recording secretary all were in favor. Thank you Mrs. Foster for your services.

### **New tourism committee members appointed by the mayor as of January 2020**

Melissa Hernandez-Newhauser, Theresa Balogh, and Angela Castellano were welcomed and thanked for attending and for volunteering their services to the City of Port Jervis and the tourism board.

### **Adjourn**

A motion was made by Regis and seconded by Chandler to adjourn the meeting. The tourism meeting was adjourned at 8:41PM.

Next Scheduled Tourism Meeting:

**March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 @ 7:00 pm - Council Chambers**

