

RVBA

Thursday, November 16, 2006 Minutes

Minutes Taken By: Rocco Pucino

Marbletown Business Association

Minutes of Meeting 11/16/06

The meeting commenced at 7:30 p.m. at the High Falls Café, with 32 attendees.

Welcome New Members: Mike Fink/Computer Services, Natalie Kelly/NK Graphic Design. Also welcome to our guest, Lisa Kellogg/Life and Business Coach – who offered a free sample coaching session to all MBA members.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: No report.

Community Services Committee: Laurel reported that the Pumpkin Contest planned for 11/28 was cancelled due to inclement weather. Laurel and Rocco also reported that the Fall Festival that day went on as planned in the plaza, just moved activities indoors. Stay tuned for information regarding the semi-annual highway cleanup. We may need to change locations of cleanup when we expand our “territory”.

Membership Committee: Ben Shor reported that the Membership Committee now has a laminating machine to produce membership identification cards for the Rewards Program. There will be no limit to the number of cards issued to a single business. After much discussion it was decided that a tiered dues system may be considered by the Board. Ben also appealed for more volunteers for the membership committee – either as permanent members of the committee or to assist with phone calls. There was some discussion about laminated nametags for meetings, no decision was made. Tom Edwards and Laurel discussed outreach to new members and highlighting 2-3 businesses per month. We need to get to know/know about member businesses so that we can refer clients, which would be a substantial benefit to members.

Nominating Committee: Tom Edwards presented and commented on the slate of officers submitted for 2007: Tim Sweeney/President (2007 only), with Richard Travers/V.P. (2007) and committing to the position of President for 2008, subject to vote of the membership at that time. Rocco Pucino/Secretary, Dan Gagnon/Treasurer.

Communications Committee: Mike Taylor reported that the main item on the table for the committee at this time is the logo for Rondout Valley Business Association. Marion McCorkle submitted 5 preliminary design proposals and will continue to refine the concepts. A final logo will be submitted to the Board for approval within 3-4 weeks. Jon Burstein made a motion to allow the Communications Committee to make the final selection of the logo and move ahead with it. The motion was seconded by Tom Edwards, and unanimously carried – with Ben Shor abstaining.

Name Change: The final vote on the name change was held. Mike Taylor made a motion that our organization change its name from Marbletown Business Association to Rondout Valley Business Association, effective 1/1/07, and that our By-Laws be changed/updated accordingly. The motion was seconded by Howard Mont, and unanimously carried.

Election of Officers and Board Members:

Sue Benz, Secretary, read the slate of prospective officers submitted by the Nominating Committee:  
Tim Sweeney – President

Richard Traverse – Vice President  
Rocco Pucino – Secretary  
Dan Gagnon – Treasurer

Nominations from the floor: None

A motion was made by Howard Mont to accept the slate of officers as presented for 2007, seconded by Jack Kempf, and unanimously carried.

Thank you's were extended to elected officers, as well as to retiring officers for their contributions to the MBA over the past year.

Sue Benz, Secretary, read the slate of prospective board members submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Ben Shor  
Tom Edwards  
Laurel Sweeney  
Howard Mont  
Dan Gagnon

Nominations from the floor: None

A motion was made by Mike Taylor to accept the slate of board members as presented for 2007, seconded by Jon Burstein, and unanimously carried.

Introductions/Announcements: Introductions were made around the room.

Design Principles and Frame Shop has a gallery opening this weekend.

Laurel reminded all businesses to contact her to spread the word on announcements to our membership.

Tim announced that Stone Ridge Wine & Spirits will hold a wine tasting this Saturday from 1:00 – 6:00 highlighting wines that go well with turkey.

Alex announced that the High Falls Civic Assn. will be holding the annual tree lighting event on 12/9 – event starts 4:30/lighting at 6:00 (there will be horse & carriage rides, caroling and live music. Also 12/8 the Jingle Bell Hop will take place at the High Falls Café (including dancing/appetizers).

Next Meeting will be January 18, 2007.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Susan S. Benz, Secretary