

TUXEDO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
Town Hall Community Room

**March 23, 2005**

**MINUTES**

**In Attendance:**

**Members:**

Noel Jablonski, Angelheart Antiques  
Dale Mottola , Applied Systems Group  
Scott Lesko, Augusta Properties, Inc  
Craig Newell, Path Computer Systems  
Fred Jones, Sterling Forest LLC  
Jim Gell, Sterling Forest State Park  
Chris Sonne, Tuxedo Park Associates Realty  
Jim Burger, Tuxedo Park School  
Andy Berish, Tuxedo Silver Dollars  
Jerry Mottola, U.S.P.S./Jericho

Scott Lesko, President, brought the meeting to order at 5:55 PM. The minutes of the February 23, 2005 meeting were reviewed by Ms. Mottola; Mr. Lesko made a motion to accept and Mr. Newell seconded the motion.

**The Discussion of the Community Survey Results was tabled due to unfavorable weather conditions which limited meeting attendance.**

**Discussion on Tuxedo Farmers Market:** Mr. Lesko advised that the recent Farmers Market Committee meeting held at the fire house had a good turnout. Although the meeting was effective, he said it was clear that future meetings must have an established order, as this first one was somewhat chaotic. It was evident that a hierarchy must be set and a Chairman, Co-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer must be nominated. Mr. Lesko also noted the immediate need for a budget to be created, and said they discussed fundraising ideas, reviewed a draft of the Vendor Application and Contract, as well as the Green Market Rules.

Thus far the Vendors interested are:

|                                      |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 organic farmer from Pine Island    | 1 organic farmer from New Jersey |
| 1 non-organic local vegetable farmer | 1 local fruit farmer             |
| 1 pickle vendor                      | 1 flower vendor                  |
| 1 cheese vendor                      | 1 chicken, sausage & egg vendor  |

Also interested is a vendor called The Farmer's Daughter which buys leftover products at the end of a Market and prepares dishes for a future Market. It was expressed that each vendor must have their own liability insurance, and the Contract from the Chamber will have an indemnification clause in it. Mr. Lesko also noted that although there is thus far no official Market Manager, a few people have volunteered to "handle Market Manager-type activities."

Income would be generated from a \$50 registration fee, plus one month's space fee of \$80 in advance. The Farmers Market Committee had discussed a "Wine and Cheese" type function to

get the word out and to solicit donations. Suggested venues included the Tuxedo Park School, The Tuxedo Club, McMullen's and the Sterling Forest Visitor's Center.

**Update on Utility Pole Banners:** Mr. Lesko reported that Chamber representatives took samples of the banners to the Architectural Review Board. The idea was not met with great enthusiasm. Some of the concerns expressed were that they not be too overdone, the white would be too reflective, would they blend too much into the background. Some ARB members will drive up to Pine Island to see how they actually look on display. The ARB did like the idea of advertising the Farmers Market on the banners.

**Discussion on Chamber Membership Directory:** It has been suggested that the Member Booklet be updated, which is a benefit to Chamber Members, residents and consumers as well. Advertising could be sold within the booklet to offset the cost; perhaps tap the local realtors to advertise and also subsidize the cost. Perhaps the booklets could be distributed at the Farmers Market. It was agreed that the idea will be pursued.

**Discussion on 911 Scholarship Fund:** The activities regarding the Scholarship Fund have stagnated. There was a benefit concert held on 9/11/04 at St. Mary's, but there has been no additional discussions or fundraising. There is a concern whether the Foundation will continue at all. Currently there is approximately \$5,000 in the Fund. Further inquiry suggested.

**Discussion on Meet and Greet:** Discussion regarding what kinds of events could be organized to increase membership in the Chamber: business card swap, wine & finger sandwiches, networking; want to advertise that any community organization can join, doesn't have to be "a business." Further discussion needed.

**Other Business:** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.