

Ontario Chamber of Commerce
Meeting Minutes– November 18, 2024
NOTE: Meeting Held @ Casey Park, Admin Bldg. – 3:30 P.M.

Call to order
Pledge of Allegiance

Donna Burolla called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm and asked everyone to recite the Pledge of Allegiance

Voting: Each paid member is entitled to one (1) vote on business presented to the Chamber. Businesses or organizations who are members may delegate alternate representatives at a meeting, in writing, with a limit of one (1) vote per paid membership. A member must be present at a meeting of the Chamber in order to vote. (per Section II Chamber By-Laws)

Board Members: Donna Burolla, President; Sherry Verstraete, Vice President;; Jenn Brake, Secretary; Board of Directors: Sylvia Ryndock, Virginia Molino, Brian Natale; Community Liaison – Bill Riddell

Board Members Absent: Jim Switzer, Treasurer

Chamber Members: Christine LoDestro, Board of Director – Elect; Frank Robusto, Treasurer – Elect; Susan Tripp – Secretary - Elect

Approve Agenda – Additions/Discussion Items

Donna Burolla said a motion needs to be added to the agenda that states Frank Robusto will be the new Treasurer effective January 1, 2025. This is needed for Lyons National Bank records.

Approval of minutes dated September 16, 2024 and September 26, 2024. Sherry Verstraete moved to approve the minutes, Sylvia Ryndock seconded. Vote: All in favor; 0 Nays.

Correspondence – None

Membership Outreach – Christine LoDestro reported:

- Dec. 6, 2024 – Friday – ribbon cutting for Aggressive Autobody – 1744 NYS Rt. 104 (time TBD)
- Roc Drift ribbon cutting was very well attended and owner, Zach Rogers was very happy
- Chamber Member Spotlight with the Times of Wayne County for businesses without a ribbon cutting: Working to set up time with Frank Robusto, Sell Smart Realty; Heintzelman's BBQ; & Mantis Fitness Bear Creek Balloons; and physical therapists in former Pat Crippen's office
 - Christine suggested. Starting a Junior Chamber of Commerce – chamber could review senior projects; members could be active members within the Business Leaders of America Club at Wayne Central H.S. This would help bring young people into the chamber and work well with our chamber entrepreneurial scholarship.
 - Sylvia Ryndock suggested starting a Technology Committee which could attract young students
 - interested in the “techy” field.
 - Susan Tripp suggested starting committees with different categories: Tech; Event Coordinator; Membership: Publicity/Social Media; Refreshments. Donna will place this on the January agenda.

Treasurer's Report – Jim Switzer (not present at meeting)

Balance Operating Account: \$21,649.81

Craft Show Account Balance: 632.87

Review VISA account statement (signing) – September, October, & November VISA statements were reviewed

OLD BUSINESS:

- Final Wrap Up Banquet & Craft Show –
 - Have volunteers dress appropriately for weather (craft show)
 - Need more golf carts – gas only no electric (2024 used 3 vehicles)
 - Have tip jar available – note on it giving to a charity – rotate each year to one of choice
 - Between both events the chamber raised approximately \$5,000.
- Motion to approve purchase of ad in program for NAC Curtains production for \$40.00 (previous approval held via email due to printing deadline). Christine LoDestro moved; Sylvia Ryndock seconded the motion. All in Favor; 0 Nays

- Motion to approve donation of \$100.00 for use of the Masonic Lodge Hall on Dec. 4, 2024. Payment to be made out to Wayne Lodge #416 F&A, sent to the Treasurer, Ray VanPatten, 7251 Cherry Tree Lane, Ontario, NY. 14519. Donna Burolla moved; Christine LoDestro seconded the motion. Vote: All in Favor; 0 Nays
- Motion to approve refreshments for networking event on Oct 9, 2024 in the amount of \$416.00 @ Konstantinou's Restaurant. Sherry Verstraete moved; Brian Natale seconded. Vote: All in Favor; 0 Nays.
- Motion to approve purchase of plaque for bench in memory of Lowell Thompson Twitchell from Papa Reggio's in the amount of \$243.00 (chamber's portion is \$121.50 and \$121.50 was paid by Karen Lin (Twitchell's daughter). Donna Burolla moved, Sherry Verstraete seconded the motion. Vote: All in Favor; 0 Nays.

NEW BUSINESS

- Acceptance of Official Election Results held on October 21, 2024 (copy sent out with minutes). Sylvia Ryndock moved, Jenn Brake seconded the motion. Vote: All in Favor; 0 Nays.
- Motion to remove Jim Switzer as Treasurer of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and recognize Frank Robusto as Treasurer effective January 1, 2025 (a two year term from 2025 to 2026) as noted in our Official Election Results dated October 21, 2024. Donna Burolla moved, Brian Natale seconded. Vote: All in Favor; 0 Nays. (motion as requested by Lyons National Bank).
- Motion to approve audit of chamber's financial records for 2024 from Jeffers & Birnie, CPA's not to exceed \$750. Donna Burolla moved, Sherry Verstraete seconded the motion. Vote: All in Favor; 0 Nays.
- Donation to the Humane Society of Wayne County for their new shelter facility.
 - Donna suggested a possible tri-chamber donation. Christine will contact the other chambers to see if they are open to the suggestion since it is a Wayne County project.
- Motion to approve purchase of sheet pizza and pop for the Ontario Parks & Rec Dept. in appreciation for their help with the Craft Show and flowers for Kim Millard for her help with the craft show and chamber banquet not to exceed \$150.00. Sherry suggested next Wednesday for the pizza delivery (Nov. 27). Donna will check with Kim Millard on the date.
- Discussion – Schedule moving meeting dates to Jan 13 and Feb.10, 2025 to the second Monday of the month due to holidays (versus 3rd Monday). Confirmed date changes with Parks & Rec Dept. Everyone on the chamber board was acceptable with the date changes.
- Date for Tri Chamber Networking in January, 2025 – location/refreshments budget TBD
- Details for Christmas Tree Lighting – Dec. 4, 2024:
 - Event to begin at 5:45 pm
 - Parade with 8-10 vehicles
 - Chamber will be at Masonic Lodge for hot chocolate (Heintzelman's to donate 400 cups needed. Roger Campbell to have everything set up for the chamber. Helpers should be there at 4:30 until around 6:30 pm. Serving time: 5:15 – 6:15 pm
 - Chamber is a sticker stop
 - Susan Tripp will take pictures and setup large, blowup St. Bernard dog.
 - Sarah Feidner, Sarah's country barn will make four signs for our A-frame signs stored at Pines of Peace advertising hot chocolate
 - Rotary will be giving away Christmas themed books. They are looking for donations to help support this project.

Motions:

- Brian Natale moved to donate \$21.60 for a raffle basket for the scavenger hunt prize (reimbursement to be made to Sherry Verstraete for the purchase of the basket). Christine LoDestro seconded, Vote: All in Favor; 0 Nays.
- Donna Burolla moved to approve the donation of \$100.00 to support the Rotary book/gift distribution. Sylvia Ryndock seconded the motion. Vote: All in Favor; 0 Nays. Payment should be made to the Ontario-Walworth Rotary Club, PO Box 4, Ontario, NY 14519.

Chamber Shirts

Sherry Verstraete presented a sample of shirts that the chamber board can purchase and then be embroidered with the chamber logo. She will send a link out (from Amazon) and everyone can order their own size.

Chamber “Thank You” Presentation

The meeting concluded with a presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to Jenn Brake, Secretary, Jim Switzer, Treasurer, and Virginia Molino, Board of Director for their dedication to the chamber and volunteering for many years of service. A special Thank You cake was well accepted by everyone!

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Programs or Events for 2025 (postponed for discussion at the January meeting)

National Small Business Week – May 4 – May 10, 2025 – ideas for celebration

Business Directory – E&M Consulting/Others

Continuation of Business of the Month? (select businesses for Jan to June, 2025)

Continuation of Ontario Spotlight – Business Names Jan – June, 2025

NEXT MEETING January 13, 2025 (MONDAY) @ 3:30 P.M. – CASEY PARK OFFICE BUILDING

Donna Burolla, President

For

Jenn Brake, Secretary



Monday, October 21, 2024
Ontario Chamber of Commerce Election Official Results

Candidates for Chamber Treasurer Board Member
For Two Year Term 2025-2026

Total Number of Chamber Member Voters: 33

James Switzer 9 Total Votes

Frank Robusto 24 Total Votes

Candidate to Serve as Ontario Chamber of Commerce Treasurer Board Member for a Two-Year Term 2025-2026 is Frank Robusto

Certified By Member Of The Ontario Chamber Of Commerce

Susan Tripp
Susan Tripp—Chamber Member & Teller

Christine LoDestro
Christine LoDestro—Chamber Member & Teller

Sherry Verstraete
Sherry Verstraete--Vice President Chamber of Commerce & Witness

STATE OF NEW YORK }

COUNTY OF WAYNE }

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 21st day of October 2024 by
Susan Tripp, Christine LoDestro and Sherry Verstraete.

Donna R. Burolla
Donna Burolla, Notary Public

DONNA R. BUROLLA
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 4861660
Qualified in Wayne County
Commission Expires June 16, 2026