

Stockbridge Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes

Date: February 4, 2026

Present: Amanda Barcenas, Barb Zanetti, Doug Goudy, Margit Hotchkiss, Phil Celentano, Avie Maloney, and Kelly Palmer

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 9:10am.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from November 12, 2025 approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Income Statement: over budget on all items – 106% above budgeted
- Expenses: budgeted \$185,000, came in at \$188,000, mostly due to office supplies and employee health insurance
- Profit: budgeted \$9,000 and we came in at \$18,000
- The budget takes into consideration an increase in payroll.
- Barb estimates on actual and expected numbers; for Christmas weekend, she does a 3-year average because attendance/income is impacted by weather conditions.
- The budget was approved.

4. Membership

- **Dues report:** went out 12/1 to be paid by 12/31
- **Annual Meeting (2/18):**
 - Honorees: Pam Boudreau, Doug Goudey, Lee Bank
 - Election of Officers: President – Amanda Barcenas (Prado de Lana Sheep Farm), Vice President – Avie Maloney (Once Upon a Table), Assistant Vice President – Amy Oberfield (Stockbridge Coffee & Tea), Treasurer – Phil Celentano (Trustco Bank), Secretary – Kelly Palmer (Marian Fathers)
 - Members-at-Large: Michael Beck (Berkshire Botanical Garden), Wendy Pearson (Stockbridge Library), Doug Goudey (Wheeler & Taylor), Stacey Gravanis (Red Lion Inn), Margit Hotchkiss (Norman Rockwell Museum), Amy Aldrich (Tanglewood), Michelle Teillon (Chesterwood)
 - **Catering:** Haven from Lenox is providing the food and Nejaime's is providing a cheese and meat platter; BBG is responsible for the wine

5. Events

- **Arts & Crafts Show** – the deadline to participate is March 15th (moved up from April 1st)
- The show will be smaller – it will be in front of the Town Offices and at Austen Riggs (the Corner House).

- The booth fee will increase by \$50 due to decreased number of spots
- 30 exhibitors have registered so far.
- **Christmas Wrap-Up**
- We sold 678 tickets for the property tour
- Concert – Albany Pro Musica – it was lovely. Barb asked them back; they need to see if it's feasible for them.
- 294 of 375 tickets were sold.
- **Sunday:** low participation for the antique cars due to weather
- We sold over 1,000 tickets the week before; sold 3,200 for Sunday and netted \$11,000 for Sunday.
- **Sponsorship:** up the last couple of years – we receive 10% of NRM's proceeds from their pop-up shop; Net for year -- \$43,000 – where we've been the last few years.
- **Food trucks:** Barb hired someone to be in front of the library and they were a no show. RLI did well
- Margit suggested that we add a line about making an additional donation
- **Naumkeag:** paid us their contribution for Christmas

6. Marketing

- **2025/2026 Guide:**
 - Loss of ½ a page from Austen Riggs
 - Printing & distribution – slight increase; distribution & printing has increased over the last 3 years.
 - Margit mentioned that we don't have a lot of great photos for the brochure and suggested we add a QR code to berskhiresoutside in place of the hiking & biking section.
 - Doug suggested that we reach out to the Stockbridge-Munsee Indians for maybe a ¼ page ad.
 - We added hiking & biking to the brochure in 2020 during COVID and people responded well to it.
 - The brochure will be printed in the next couple of months, so any changes would need to be completed by February 13th.

7. Other

- **Town Report:**
 - Barb explained what we do and submitted it to the Town of Stockbridge.
 - The select board may be increased to 5 people
 - 250th Anniversary Meetings: they came up with some type of passport; you can get it stamped if you go around to the various sites.
 - Barb offered to do some advertising for the event via the Chamber.
- **Town Meeting Assignments:**

- 2/12 – Kelly
 - 2/19 – Margit
 - 2/26 – Phil
 - 3/5 – Amanda
- **Roundtable:**
 - Margit: NRM has been quiet due to weather. They're gearing up for February vacation week
 - Avie: Once Upon a Table is 30 this year; they're going to do a 30/30 thing to appeal to locals. Business has been slower
 - Phil: He needs help – they're growing in Pittsfield; he's been promoted to Bank Officer
 - Doug: Wheeler & Taylor continues to grow; they're buying a new location with over 90 employees.

8. Adjournment

- Meeting concluded at 10:48am

Respectfully submitted: Kelly Palmer