

## ROUNDTABLE MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 8, 2016

***PRESENT:*** Jack Marren, Tim Maher, David Lee, Chris Catt, Jake Chard, Tim Niver, Galen Powers, John Palomaki Jr., Mike Stockman, Trisha Turner, Petrea Rae, Tonya Baker, Mary Duprey, Kathy Rayburn, Elizabeth Saeva, Kathleen Wagner, Mitch Donovan, Meg Joseph, Dale Dewey, Chauncy Young, Tracie Archie, and Tina Kolaczyk

***Jack Marren – Town Supervisor:*** Jack welcomed the group and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He asked if each person could share with the group their one accomplishment that their group is most proud of. For the Town, Jack indicated that the adoption of the Comp Plan was its greatest accomplishment. For the County, the retirement and replacement of 2 senior leaders in County government was their major accomplishment.

***Tim Maher – Victor Merchants Group:*** The group has many accomplishments, but their partnership with the Parks & Rec Department and LDC on various projects is most noteworthy. Currently, there are 4 large companies looking to sponsor events this year. For 2016, planning is still underway for events and a schedule should be available in February. The first event will be in March, the Beer & Chili Walk.

***David Lee – Ontario County Tourism:*** His group's major accomplishment is the growth of occupancy levels back to the 2008 levels. They hosted 60 Mid-West Travel Writers Association members who visited on a tour in 2015 and they are now seeing results from that visit and the publicity it gained.

***Chris Catt – Congressman Chris Collins' Office:*** The Federal Government has passed the Highway Bill and Federal Budget. On a local level, the Cider Act is being worked on to promote the growth of local craft brewers and cideries to grow and promote job creation.

***Jake Chard – Senator Funke's Office:*** They delivered money to Ontario County and restored funding for tourism and passed local laws.

Jack congratulated Jake on his election to the Gorham Town Board this past November.

***Tim Niver – Victor Farmington Library:*** The highlight was the new funding method passed by the local voters to keep the Library in business.

***Galen Powers – Victor Farmington Rotary:*** Work continues on The Rotary International project in Nicaragua which will provide a local water supply for a village in Nicaragua. Locally, the new Tops store assisted them with the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual giving Tree and collected 1200 presents for residents in need in Ontario County and surrounding areas. There is a new President and new District Governor and all are trained annually. Newly elected officials will be trained in San Diego and some from other countries will be stopping here on their way there for tours of upstate New York. Members of the local club will be participating in hosting these visitors.

***John Palomaki Jr. – Sustainable Finger Lakes:*** In November they had a successful event focusing on electric vehicles. Dealers brought cars out for test drives and there were presenters as well. They presented a list of possible charging centers in Victor for electric vehicles. Work is continuing on getting stations in the Town, Village and at Eastview Mall. There is currently a charging station at North Face.

Their monthly discussion series will begin in February with monthly sessions with films and/or speakers on various sustainability issues. An Eco Fair will be held in April, near Earth Day. They will be working with VCS students who will be doing projects for display at the fair. They are looking for groups/mentors from the community to assist with this.

***Mike Stockman – Victor Parks & Rec:*** Parks & Rec's highlight is the move currently underway into their new facility at Lehigh Crossing. They will be having an Open House and Winterfest on February 14<sup>th</sup> from 1-6pm concluding with fireworks. The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup> at the Victor Primary School at 10 am.

***Trisha Turner – Assemblyman Brian Kolb's Office:*** Assemblyman Kolb will be attending the Annual Bishop's Legislative Luncheon. The Legislative Session is beginning with a full agenda. Some initiatives include reform rules to allow members to serve their constituents instead of political parties, reform of Common Core, fight for equity for funding for local roads and bridge repairs funding, improvement of employment and housing opportunities for disabled citizens and help for small businesses.

***Petrea Rae – The Partnership for Ontario County:*** Petrea introduced Tonya Baker, an intern from Keuka College who was with her today. Her office has moved into their new offices along with sister agencies. They have expanded into the Geneva and Marcus Whitman areas and are continuing their Midlakes and Canandaigua sites as well for family support services. They also have 2 youth mental

health first aid facilitators. They hosted 3 heroin forums in various communities and the data gathered there is being compiled and will be out in February and more initiatives will begin in the spring. More forums will be held in February at Canandaigua and Marcus Whitman. They have collected 1000 lbs of unused prescription medications in 2016. Another collection will be held in Canandaigua on April 30<sup>th</sup> and one in Victor in September.

***Mary Duprey – Victor Garden Club:*** The club's accomplishment is the continued partnership with the Village and Town for the flowers planted around the Town and Village. They are working on grants for continued plantings.

***Kathy Rayburn - Economic Development and VLDC:*** Kathy was successful in negotiating more funding for small businesses. This program will begin later this month.

Jack Marren was re-elected for his 4<sup>th</sup> term as Chairman to the Ontario County Board of Supervisors.

Work is underway for the annual Business Awards Luncheon.

The Town Kiosk at EVM needs events to publicize on the kiosk. Please contact Kathy's office with events you would like to include either in the video or flyers on the racks attached to the kiosk.

***Elizabeth Saeva – Serenity House:*** Her highlight of 2016 was the Cookie Walk which raised over \$2,000. Their Gala will be on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Contributions for the raffle for that night are needed.

***Kathleen Wagner – NoWhere to Go (Partnership for Ontario County):*** Their highlight was action – the establishment of the first 2 unsheltered counts of homeless in Ontario County. Neighboring Counties will work with them to secure funding. An Immediate Crisis Team has begun working with local homeless in Ontario County. They connect these individuals with services.

Plans for 2016 include dealing with Governor Cuomo's unfunded mandate to shelter any homeless individuals in NYS once the temperatures drop below 32 degrees. They had already partnered with the Salvation Army to begin a program for a warming station. The Ontario County Sheriff's Department and Ontario County Health Department are working with them also. Anyone in Ontario County who is homeless can go to the station in Canandaigua once it is established. Transportation issues are

being worked on currently. They are hoping to form an interfaith hospitality network for families and children facing homelessness or housing instability.

***Mitch Donovan – Chamber of Commerce:*** The Chamber's highlight was the hiring of a new programming & membership coordinator. There are now 300 members of the Victor Chamber. Mitch passed out the nomination form for the women of Excellence award. There are awards for a non-profit/volunteer, student and professionals. Past nominees are eligible for re-nomination. This is a great opportunity to promote awareness of non-profit organizations.

A strategic partnership with Rotary, Kiwanis and Lions Clubs has begun with an initiative for a workday at Serenity House. Other non-profits are being looked at for future initiatives.

***Meg Joseph – Friends of Ganondagon:*** the opening of the Seneca Arts & Cultural Center which opened in October was their big accomplishment. Meg encouraged everyone to visit and use the auditorium for their groups' activities.

Activities for 2016 include a focus on education of the public about the Seneca Culture. The site is a NYS Historic Site and the Friends' focus is programming at the site. Programs will be held twice a month with both outdoor and indoor activities and most programs are free.

***Dale Dewey – SCORE:*** SCORE is a national mentoring organization for small businesses or those looking to start a small business. They will also help business owners value their business to sell or pass on to others. The SCORE website has a great deal of material available.

In 2015 the group expanded into Victor and met at the Chamber office. He mentored upwards of 15 people who are interested in starting a business. Two businesses, Climbing Vines and the Strong Home are among those he worked with. They are looking to establish a speakers' bureau for lunch meeting and local seminars.

They are also looking to get established working with local high schools and colleges to work with students looking to become entrepreneurs or join the business world. They teach about local government involvement, financing, etc. and how to start a business.

***Chauncy Young – Fishers Fire District:*** Renovations are complete now at House #2. Steve Limbeck has been re-elected as a Commissioner, Silvio Palermo is the

Town Board liaison, demolition work has begun on part of the old firehouse and 4 new firefighters are being hired.

***Victor Hiking Trails:*** The group has been working on the grant funding from Parks & Trails NY to help revitalize the group & its trails. He passed out an information sheet on other things the group is working on.

***Tracy Archie – FLCC:*** Classes begin January 25<sup>th</sup>. There are 3 satellite campuses, Victor, Geneva and Newark. The Geneva Campus Center is now open and last night hosted the Ontario Board of Supervisors organizational meeting.

Jack spoke about the renovations to the Geneva Center and the programs that will be offered there. The BOS toured the center after their meeting.

Our region was awarded \$500 million for economic development from NYS. The Town was awarded grants, one for a public safety study. They also received funding a grant for infrastructure.

Thank you to all for attending.

**The next Roundtable meeting will be on February 5, 2016 at 8:00am in the Victor Town Hall main meeting room.**