

Coudersport Area Chamber of Commerce
Membership Meeting Minutes
March 17th , 2026

Welcome and Introductions:

Attendees: Caroline Powers, President; Gus Kulawiecz; Vice President; Lisa Brennan; Community Outreach Director; Sonya Rittberg, Secretary; Kelly Werner, Membership Director; Kim, Media Director, Traci Ceslik, Treasurer; Doug & Linette Tushar, Austin Campground; Chuck Jewell, Community Member; Bev Morris, Arboretum; Dennis Goodenough, Rotary; Todd Brown, Borough; Dave Castano, Potter County Historical Society; Chris Wilson, S. Wilson Enterprises LLC; Greg Brink, Rotary; Traci Bretz, Farmers Market.

Member/Community Updates & Comments:

Todd Brown the Borough Manager provided information regarding a proposed website initiative that would serve as a central hub for community and business events within the borough. The platform would also help sponsor and promote local events, and its link could be integrated into any participating business's websites.

The cost is \$1,999 for the month of March, increasing to \$2,500 annually after March, with a yearly contract required. Costs would be split equally among participating organizations, with the share decreasing as more organizations join.

It was discussed that either the Borough or the Chamber could oversee the program. The Borough also has the option to purchase the platform and bill participating organizations accordingly.

A demonstration of the website will be scheduled.

Bev Morris inquired whether a list of current sponsors is available.

Dave Castano provided an update on the 250th Celebration. Events are being planned around the Fourth of July and Memorial Day Weekend. Dave will also assist Todd Brown with coordinating fireworks at the courthouse square.

An allocation of \$1,000 has been designated for advertising, with the goal of promoting events by Maple Festival. The Chamber's Food Fun Friday- Military

Appreciation will also be included in the advertising. There will be \$3,000 in Prize Money: 1st, 2nd, 3rd and honorable mentions.

A gala is scheduled for September 12. Greg Brink, inquired about the possibility of adjusting the parade time.

Traci Bretz provided an update on the Farmers Market. Discussion included the possibility of the market operating under the Chamber's umbrella as a subcommittee. Topics included pursuing grant opportunities, the use of EBT cards, and questions regarding 501(c)(3) status. Traci formally requested that the Chamber consider "adopting" the Farmers Market. It was suggested that a solicitor assist in structuring this arrangement. A designated location for the Farmers Market is also being planned.

New Business:

Minutes & Treasurer Report

Minutes – No questions on the Minutes. Caroline made a motion to accept minutes. Lisa accepted the motion. Kim seconded the motion. All accepted.

Treasurers Report – No questions on the Treasurers Report. Caroline made a motion to accept the Treasurers Report. Chris Wilson accepted the motion. Doug Tushar seconded the motion. All accepted.

Tent, Table, and Chair Rentals / Lease Agreement

Caroline reviewed the current rental program for tents, tables, and chairs, emphasizing the importance of maintaining rental fees. She noted that while some individuals have requested to use the items free of charge, it was agreed that rentals should not be provided at no cost, as similar services elsewhere require payment. Discussion also included responsibility for damages and replacement costs.

Kim addressed concerns regarding general wear and tear, noting the need to determine responsibility for replacing tents, tables, and chairs when necessary.

Linette from Austin Campground suggested the possibility of reducing rental fees while increasing the required deposit. Additional discussion included whether rentals are being requested primarily by members or non-members.

Bev Morris raised the question of whether rental rates should be increased for personal (non-community) use.

Dennis shared that he contacted a rental company in Olean, which charges over \$400 per day for a tent, reinforcing that the Chamber's current pricing is very reasonable. He also suggested implementing a setup fee.

Additional ideas discussed included:

- Charging for setup and teardown services
- Utilizing community service volunteers or groups (Boy Scouts) for setup/teardown assistance
- Establishing a rental radius
- Updating the rental agreement
- Adding "Rent Me" labels to equipment
- Providing clear setup and teardown instructions

Old Business:

Audit Report

Traci stated she is currently working on it.

Budget Committee

Caroline stated the meeting is March 30th.

Maple Festival Update

Caroline stated there are 10 vendors is far, and annual sponsorships are \$100, \$750, and \$1000

Easter Egg Hunt with Sweden Valley Manor

Caroline stated there are 28 preregistered already for the event, and if anyone want to help fill candy bags everyone is meeting at 5:30 on Monday.

Food Fun Fridays

Caroline updated everyone know we have music for each Friday.

Dennis discussed the possibility of serving alcohol at upcoming events. He noted that approval would need to be obtained from the Borough and County Commissioners. At this time, it has not been determined whether alcohol will be served.

Caroline made a motion to adjourn public meeting. Kim accepted the motion. Chris Wilson seconded the motion. All accepted.