



CALLICOON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

2025 Monthly Member Meeting | 01.28.25 MINUTES

Meeting date | time 01/28/2025 | 6:30 pm | Meeting location Zoom Only - Meeting ID 842 2034 4050

Meeting called by:	Nicole Vallance, President	Time / Stack:	n/a
Facilitator:	Nicole Vallance, President	Call to Order:	6:33 pm by Nicole Vallance, <i>President</i>
Note taker:	Roy Harris, Secretary	Adjourned:	7:23 pm by Nicole Vallance, <i>President</i>

Attendance: Nicole Vallance, *President*; Genia Brodyn, *Vice President*; Roy Harris, *Secretary*. Executive Board Members: Rosie DeCristofaro, Thong Keokham, & Lily Smith. Attendees: John Erik Karkula, Lisa Stewart.

AGENDA TOPICS

Agenda topic President's Report | Presenter *Thong Keokham*

- **Welcome** | New members, including the new eatery on Main Street, Navor Koken, Rhulen Real Estate and Nancy Anderson from the CDI Secretary

Agenda topic Secretary's Report | Presenter *Roy Harris*

- **Review Monthly Member Meeting Minutes** | Review 12.17.24 Meeting Minutes. There was a request for feedback or changes with no changes requested.
 - **Motion to adopt the 12.17.24 General Meeting Minutes, by (Rosie) and 2nd (Genia). Unanimously approved.**

Agenda topic Treasurer's Report | Presenter *Bill Jenks (& Nicole Vallance)*

- **Treasury Report** | There is \$5,423.52 in Institutional checking. We are expecting 2 additional 2024 events sponsorship checks totaling \$2,300 and have approximately \$2,000 in checks out. (exp for Dickens, tree lighting, fall bingo & social media)
 - We are solvent at this point with 90% of expenses taken care of. The fundraisers and events did well this year and we were able to purchase a new PA system, larger tents for events, and we have reserve to fund website updates and create a Callicoon Guide.
 - Suggestion to earmark \$2500 for the Field Guide & set aside some money for the website.
 - Lily would like to price out on Fiver. We can also search locally for someone to implement the design created by Lily and Magda. (tentatively earmark \$1,000-\$1,200.
 - **Motion to reserve \$2500 for the Callicoon Field Guide (NV) 2nd (Lily). Unanimously approved.**

Agenda topic Beautification | Presenter *Various*

- **Committee Chair** | Seeking a new Chair for 2025- would be great to get a local businessperson to Chair. Thanked John Erik for his past stewardship of the program and his work expanding the Callicoon Gardens and improving them, as well as his current work maintaining the Trestle Shade Garden and Wayne Bank Meadow.
 - The improvements have added substantially to the esthetic of the hamlet but also increased the scope. It has been a challenge finding a Chair to take this program on, as it can become almost a full-time job. We hope to break the work down into manageable bites to make this easier for volunteers.

- (NV) Last year, with the help of Sullivan 180 grant and our spring fundraising efforts, we made the decision to invest in boxwoods for the planters, which should help with the number of annuals needed to fill them and also provides green all year – this should reduce both cost and work going forward.
- (JEK) Was happy to see perennials planted the way to go - a great investment rather than annuals that only last a few months
- (GB) Please email us if you are if you know anyone interested in volunteering or Chairing.
- (JEK)- loved the job so much and loved working with the team planting all the native baskets etc. and for years we had a great team of volunteers. However, what JE did not love- was a lot of contention within the CBA, the drama was so unpleasant and extended to the store owners and felt at times unappreciated. He is said he liked that the CBA now has a that works together. The lack of appreciation for the business owners and could be at times nasty to you and no volunteer should be treated that way
 - (NV) We can definitely understand that and agree volunteers need to feel appreciated. We are grateful to have had a particularly amicable board the past few years and glad it is starting to show. Given the changes, would you consider working with the team again in any way going forward
 - (JEK) Wants a conversation with the business owners to be nice to the people.
 - (LS) Would be happy to say something to set up support systems.
- (NV) Overall we need more interest from the business owners and more volunteers. – efforts often come down to capacity. If we increase capacity and get more people involved then it works.
- **Sullivan 180 Grant** | Submission is due March 1st, 2025- will put a budget together based on last year
- **Hamlet Baskets** | 14" Red-Pink Ivy Geraniums in a metal basket with coconut liner at \$27/ea.
 - Orders are now open. Please email beautification.callicoon@gmail.com to order.
 - If you have baskets from 2024 – please email, beautification.callicoon@gmail.com to pick up.
 - We need to submit basket order to Delaware Valley ASAP - Nicole spoke to Kaitlyn and while their growers cannot plant in our metal baskets, but they can get plants that can be transferred that would create the same effect. They can have plants and liners ready by mid-to late may) We will have to assemble. Huge Thanks to Delaware Valley Farm & Garden and Kaitlyn working with us on great pricing for our members!
- **2025 Beautification Intern** | This is a paid internship is open to applicants ages 16-21, who can dedicate 20-30 hours weekly in Callicoon and have the ability to travel to Liberty once weekly for intern meeting & training. Starts at \$16.25/ hour- great position for a young person who may be interested. (see flyer)

Agenda topic Events Committee | **Presenter** Genia Brodyn

- **2025 CBA Events Dates** | Dates now listed on www.visitcallicoon.com
 - Callicoon Country Fair | Saturday, July 26, 2025
 - Callicoon Artwalk | Saturday, October 11th, 2025 - Returning to a Saturday date
 - DVAA Arts for Sullivan Grant | Submitted November 2024
 - Holiday Tree Lighting | Saturday, November 29th, 2025
 - Dickens on the Delaware | Saturday, December 13th, 2025

- **Committee Chair** | Again seeking committee chairs- We need a lot more people joining and helping in- brings a lot of people to town these events
 - Lily- we are looking for more help on all the committees, - all the need particular skills - fundraising, beautification, marketing, - need people in these areas with skills
- **2025 Event Sponsorships** | In the process of updating packets. Agree to keep sponsorship tiers and donations the same as last year. Premier: \$1,500 for 3 events (\$500 each), and down to \$300 which is \$100 each event. Also, anyone can contribute any amount for 1 or all 3 events – no amount too small!
 - We were very fortunate in 2024 to have 12 business support the various events.
- **2025 Fundraising Events** | Handbag Bingo events tentatively scheduled for May 3rd & November 20th.

Agenda topic Elections | Presenter *Various*

- **Declarations** | We are seeking candidate declarations to serve on the CBA's 2025 Executive Board. Please email the Secretary, Roy Harris at secretary.callicoon@gmail.com to submit your declaration for a board seat.
 - (LS) We need to solicit candidates with specific skill sets- hard to grow and capacity if we don't get people with the skillsets - we need to solicit for specific skill sets
 - (JEK) Agree the best thing to do- but talked about the pool of candidates. The new by-laws was just approved- which he is happy with as there was too many grey areas in the past versions and shenanigans can go on- like the last election. Only one problem, is that and with the new rules with who can run are a potential issue because they come at the moment when we are asking for candidates and the election, since no one has renewed. Disappointment at lack of engagement at the moment and no one is running - there used to be 20 people at the meetings and a month before the election and not a single new candidate.
 - (RH) Any 2024 Member is eligible – so anyone who ran last year can run this year also.
 - (RH) The other thing done in the by-laws- you just run to be a board member-makes it easier they do not have to run as a special position.
 - (NV) There are pros and cons, but we hope then it can be more equitable – before a person who ran for an officer seat and lost, could not also run for as a board member at large – now the membership selects their top 7 choices and then the Board Members elected then vote on who has the best skills for each position.
 - (JEK) – Yes, you preselected the people on a ticket you wanted to run with - hoping that they'd all get in. When JE was on the board before there were constant battles
 - (RH) Unfortunately, this whole year we've had limited people showing up – it would have been great to have some of the folks who ran last year get involved in the committees, but people disappeared elections.
 - (LS) We have to resolve this - no candidates at the moment- no one has put their hat in the ring at this point.
 - (NV) I was happy to serve this year and am proud of the work we accomplished but unfortunately, I can no longer give the huge number of hours weekly that I have previously. I will happily help the new board and continue to support with marketing and assist where else I can of course. Given this year's volunteer capacity, we had a very successful year, raising funds, sponsorships, the Sullivan County Sign initiative, grant writing, moving the depot project forward and well as

being able to get the website redesign going, new signage for businesses, plus beautification - all with limited volunteers.

- (LS) a lot of work because it was a cooperative board, but a Lot of it fell on Nicole's hands- emphasized need specific skills and trying to figure out a budget to pay people for some work as someone else isn't going to do all of it.
 - (JE)- a team of people who work together and keep the drama off
- JE- one more question is a date set for a election
 - Lily- we have a meeting set for Feb 18th
- Roy- we are going to be putting something out in the next few days to send a MailChimp to get people more excited to run on the board- we need a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 7 for the new board- as long as 3 people apply we can have a meeting and if we don't get that we will put our heads together and figure it out
 - Rosie- if we get 3 people- we will have an election

Agenda topic Public Comment | Presenter *Various*

- (JEK) Curious about Darko's progress leading the CDI. Some of his questions from the town hall were not answered thoroughly - but it was earlier this year. People may not want to be involved if they don't feel informed. Darko seems knowledgeable, but there hasn't been a lot of change this year on the building - He hopes he can pull off this project- building is gorgeous and needs a little love to get this done.
 - (NV): Darko has been doing an incredible job and currently accepting bids from architectural companies- the momentum has been great. They can be reached at allaboard@thecallicoondpot.com and we're also happy to get you any answers that you would like. Please email Roy or myself specific questions and we're happy to share information.
- **Next Public Meeting:** Tuesday, February 18th, 2025, 6:30pm at Seminary Hill Cidery. This will be the 'Meet the Candidates' Meeting with a digital vote to follow. {Secretary's Note: Meeting was changed to zoom due to weather}
- **Adjourn:** • Motion to adjourn (Rosie), 2nd (Lily). All in favor. Adjourned at 7:23



Internship Opportunities

Work in Callicoon as a paid
Sullivan 180 Intern



Love where you live! Be a changemaker in your community.

Sullivan 180 interns work alongside dedicated volunteers May through August in on projects in communities.

You will build resumé experience, make valuable connections, develop and refine skills, and participate in leadership training.

Help keep Callicoon Beautiful!

The Callicoon Business Association is seeking applicants to work with us for the **2025 Summer Season!** Please email us to set up a call today!

beautification.callicoon@gmail.com

Sullivan180.org • 845.295.2680

If you're a Sullivan County resident age 16-20, you're eligible to be a Sullivan 180 intern!

Pay starts at \$16.25 per hour.

To apply, contact Anne-Louise Scandariato at 845.295.2405 or Anne-Louise@Sullivan180.org.

To work with the CBA in Callicoon, email us TODAY!