



*“working collaboratively to bolster the vitality of Downtown Hudson”*



**Hudson Business Association  
June 1, 2009  
Minutes**

Chairman Redding called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM.

**1. Introductions of members and guests present**

Arthur Redding, DJ Collins, Chuck Randall, Nanci Bishop, Kristin Lembo, Carl Lembo, Mike Murphy, Don Garcia, Michelle Ciccolo, Michael Dexter, Jan Patterson (representing Hudson Arts Alliance), Nick Kasseris and Chris Yates.

**2. Vote to accept minutes from May 4 meeting.**

*Vote: Motion made to accept minutes from the May meeting by Michael Murphy. Seconded by Don Garcia. The motion passed unanimously.*

**3. Treasurer's report**

Chuck Randall covered the Treasurer's report. The budget is showing the effect of the group taking on the administrative tasks.

Chuck began the discussion on the membership and renewal process. For existing members, Chuck recommended emailing invoices. Also, Chuck stressed the importance of establishing a Membership Committee. He spoke with Lee Diner about heading up this committee. Michelle Ciccolo recommended creating a renewal event. Other members mentioned it's a time and availability factor. Michelle then recommended coming up with an annual report to make sure the non-participating members understand the value of being in the group.

**4. Update on communications and advertising**

Kristin Lembo updated the Facebook information on the Hudson Community Fest. The "Buy Local" Facebook account now has 235 members and growing. Also, TD Bank North is going in the space where the Citizens Bank was located on Washington Street. Lowes is also starting construction on the new mall located on Coolidge Street.

DJ Collins continues to coordinate the Hudson Business Association's center spread in Action Unlimited with school calendars and information on non-profit organizations. The summer months will feature the Hudson Recreation Programs, Wood Park and South Street Concert Schedules and other non-profits groups, which contact DJ for coverage.

**5. Event Recap**

Nanci Bishop provided a recap on the "Meet and Greet Event" on 5/7/09. There were approximately 48 who attended. The majority of the attendees were business owners, commercial real estate and prospective entrepreneurs.

Arthur Redding provided a recap of the Hudson Fest. The new South Street location was a huge asset to the Fest attendance. Approximately 5,000 in attendance and 1,500 balloons were given.

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## **6. Old Business**

Chris Yates mentioned that the Salvation Army Facade renovation is still in the initial planning phase. Michelle Ciccola mentioned that Mr. Manzo, owner of Sofia Restaurant's Building – 158 Main Street, inquired about the façade renovation that may be available.

## **7. New Business**

Discussion of "No Sales Tax Holiday". The State may not be planning a "No Sales Tax Holiday" for 2009. Arthur Redding suggested that the business pool together to offer a "Hudson Downtown No Sales Tax Day". He offered to contact the State in order to see if an event would be possible and what the guidelines would be.

Jan Patterson, represented the Hudson Arts Alliance, gave a brief introduction to herself and the organization. She was interested in a non-profit level of Membership within the Hudson Business Association. This level is already offered since for similar members, like the Assabet Valley Chamber.

## **8. Action List discussion**

## **9. Open Discussion**

Michelle Ciccolo has received a few calls regarding how Bolton could get involved with the "Buy Local" campaign. This topic was added to our "Action Item List" for June. Also, Michelle Ciccolo had a student interested in helping with establishing a Hudson Farmer's Market. DJ agreed to contact her to see how they can get the project off the ground.

**Next meeting: July 6 @ 4PM, Murphy Insurance, 50 Main Street.**

**July 6 – Chuck – 17 Main Street**

**August – approved**

**Sept 14 – Chris Yates 4:00**

**Oct 5 – Hudson Appliance – 4:00**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:29PM.

Minutes submitted by DJ Collins.