

- I) President Kay McMahon called the meeting to order.
- II) Introductions of attendees were conducted.
- III) Secretaries Report – Kristin Knickerbocker
 - A. Minutes of the November meeting were accepted into the record as approved.
- IV) Treasurer's Report – Ginger Delano
 - A. Balance as of November 11, 2004: \$3,917.78
 - B. Revenue: \$250.00 Dues
 - C. Expenses: \$1018.20 (Banners)
 - D. New Balance as of January 13, 2005: \$3,149.58
- V) Election Results:
 - 1. Vice President: Pete Rawson
 - 2. Treasurer: Ginger Delano
 - 3. Directors: Pat Gabriel, Peggy Hawkins, Vivian Steinberg,
- VI) Guest Speaker – Ann Cooper – Columbia County Tourism Department
 - A. Tourism tracking and reporting is based on hotel sales tax receipts.
 - B. Columbia County has only 400 beds available at hotels, Inns, and B+B's as compared to Green County's 3800 beds and Albany's 8000 beds.
 - C. NYS and Columbia County fund the tourism bureau under the rules and regulations of the "I love NY" program, with a budget of \$310,000.
 - D. Membership of the Columbia County Partners in Tourism:
 - 1. Chamber of Commerce
 - 2. County Lodging Organization
 - 3. Cornell Cooperative Extension
 - 4. County Board of Supervisors
 - 5. Columbia County Council for the Arts
 - E. Columbia County Tourism Department is responsible for:
 - 1. 100,000 – 120,000 Brochures are circulated starting in April, which list lodging and dining establishments and events, Columbia County wall calendar, Columbia County bird guide brochure.
 - 2. On-line events calendar.
- VII) Old Business
 - A. Website has been approved to move forward with Marden Consulting Inc.
 - B. Holiday Committee
 - 1. Thank you to the Holiday Committee for a successful tree lighting event and banner procurement, to all those who baked/donated refreshments, and the Darrow students who rushed to the tree lighting to sing after their previous event.
 - C. Town Board
 - 1. The Comprehensive Plan was unanimously accepted and work to bring the zoning regulation in alignment with the plan will now take place.
 - D. Discussion of planning a New Lebanon event and building upon Fall Festival took place. Anyone interested in chairing or being involved in such a committee should contact an officer or member of the board.
- VIII) Upcoming Meetings
 - A. February 10th at 6:30 PM at Darrow School Samson Environmental Center.
 - 1. Peter Quinn will be speaking on a proposed Senior Housing project.
- IX) Meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM