

1.12.2026 BACC BOD Meeting Minutes

Present: Laura Malieswski, Burton Hinton, Karen Kennedy, Jen Palmieri,

Guests: Renee Powers, Peggy Clay, John Kascenska, Lorelee Tester (Zoom)

Call to Order: 5:08 PM

Lorelee Tester of NEK Chamber offered an idea about how local chambers can better complement one another. The NEK Chamber acts as an umbrella to other area chambers. She suggested that members of local chambers such as BACC receive a discount if they join the NEK chamber. The discount would be whatever they paid to the local chamber subtracted from their NEK Chamber dues. No reason for individuals to join the NEK chamber, but to keep it consistent, we can offer to businesses and individuals.

Burton asked if BACC is qualified to be a VACE members?

Lorelee, NEK dues are \$199 per year for a sole-proprietor business.

John mentioned there are 3 things the NEK chamber does that BACC doesn't including involvement with state government, better networking ability, more collaboration/interaction.

Laura mentioned that some businesses are already enrolled in both chambers. Would NEK chamber reimburse them? Lorelee would be happy to adjust if a business has already paid. Specify this option to new members if the BOD agrees to the proposal.

Laura will send an email to all members, sharing it with Lorelee first.

Jen made a motion to approve November Pre-annual meeting minutes, Karen seconded. Karen made a motion to approve November Annual Meeting Minutes, Jen seconded. All minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report shows balance of \$24,959.92. Jen made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Karen seconded. Approved.

New board members- Jen made a motion to add Renee Powers and Peggy Clay to the Board of Directors for the remainder of the year, Karen seconded. Renee and Peggy will be on the board for the rest of 2026 and at the Annual Meeting in November, members can vote them to remain on the board for a 3 year term.

Renewal of roles: John has stepped down from the BOD

- Burton was elected president
- Michelle has agreed to remain Secretary
- Karen has agreed to remain Treasurer
- Jen will consider being Vice President if it is not a conflict of interest with her job

Peggy made a motion to approve the slate of officers above for 2026, Karen seconded. Motion approved.

Preview of new BACC website: Laura walked us through a review of the new website which is almost ready to go. It is intended to be visited by residents and tourists not just business members. There is ad space at the footer to be used for events and sponsors. Will be switching from GoDaddy to Blue Host.

Removal of Christmas trees from BMC: Betsy Bailey has indicated that she will pick them up. Friday, January 30th was set as the date to have them removed. Laura will let Betsy know.

Dates for upcoming BOD meetings:

- March 9
- May 11
- July 13
- September 14
- Annual meeting November 9

All meetings are held at the community building in West Burke at 5 PM. Annual meeting location TBD

Review letter from Burke Mountain Club (BMC) about fees for storage:

BMC has requested we pay \$75/month to house our tables, chairs, etc in the bay. Items have been stored there for several years now and they have never asked us to pay until now.

Laura pointed out that they have been gifted a free BACC membership for decades now which allows them to save money on heating fuel, BMC has the use of tables and chairs for any of their events, the BACC promotes their events, we also set them up with WiFi many years ago and continue to pay the bill for it. A chamber member has offered to store these items in a barn on her property for \$200/year and a free BACC membership. The BOD agreed to have Laura draft a letter with our thoughts and suggest a meeting between BACC and BMC to discuss further.

Adjourn: 6:30pm