LIGHT UP THOMASTON
158 MAIN STREET
THOMASTON, CT 06787

RECEIVED
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By

October 29, 2026

Attendance:

Beth Schaffer, Chair	Amy Kwetkus, Co-Chair
Peggy Witecy, Treasurer	Hedy Kelley, Secretary
Natalie Hellerin	Hayleigh Driefeiss
Melanie Dobos	Ingrid Kansyla
Sara Walker	George Keller
Kay Lamy	William Belejack

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve minutes as written made by Peggy, Ami seconded, approved as written

Treasurer's Report: $36691.74, total spent is 3666.54 (without bows).

New Business

- Ask the Board of Selectmen for use of the Crescent Gallery, Hedy, Peggy, All in favor, Motion carried.
- Clover Credit Card for festival of trees, one-time $29 payment, Bank in the last year has a new POS vendor to take cards. We can set it up for Light up Thomaston for a one time $29 payment, on an iPhone we can use tap, there is a small surcharge that will be added 3% that the customer will be charged. We can keep this account open, because we are non profit, they will not charge us a monthly fee. This can be used throughout the year. Melanie has the paperwork, she can send it to Tracy and have Larry sign for it. It can be on many phones. Android phone will have to enter manually.
  Motion to approve the Clover card, Melanie made motion, Peggy seconded.
  Discussion – we have the written word that a monthly fee will not be charged. All in favor, motion carried.
- Comcast/Xfinity: Reached out, they want to be involved. They would like to do have a promotional tent, that would also have games with promotional prizes. We will reinforce with them that there is nothing being sold that evening. Motion to allow them to participate: Ami, seconded by Natalie.

We will reinforce with them that they need to include something for children, and we will also send them a sponsorship letter.
Motion carried as proposed.

- Connecticut Distilling: Would like to participate and have a booth to hand out 1 oz shots. Motion made by Peggy and seconded by Sarah to allow Connecticut Distillery to hand out 1 oz liquor; the group discussed this at length, company states that they would not give out more than 1 sample to anyone, but we believe that this would be hard to enforce. This is a family-friendly event; the motion did not carry, 0 for, all against. They can give things out, coupons, candy, etc., or if they would like to work with one of the local package stores to set up inside (not a part of Light Up Thomaston), we do not have any authority to stop them.

Old Business

- Hot Dog Update: talked to Daniella; we do not have the budget or the volume to hand the hot dogs out. This is not in our budget. Hot dogs were $4500
  The Ambulance Corp is giving out donuts; we can ask them to hand out Pizzas, which would be about $500 – tabled until next meeting.
- Windows Update – Beth has a lot of the fliers; they have not been given out to the team to hand out. When Kay handed out trees to Main Street, she also talked to them about the windows.
  We need to have someone judge the windows as well. Joan is the Grand Marshall; we may be able to have her judge the windows.
  We will ask Rich Sileo and John Piscopo to possibly participate in the parade and vote on the windows.
- Parade Update – nothing at this time
- Tree Update – We may need to go to 5 Below to purchase more tables.
- Tablecloths – 12 (8) foot tables and 2 round tables – We do have some table clothes that were purchased after the event last year. We may need to replace some. Melanie can get fabric to replace if needed. We should be ok for this year.
- Popcorn Food Truck – Mom's place (husband) would like to set up his food truck. We explained that anything needs to be free. But since he is not on Main Street, he is setting up in the parking lot near his wife's business. We will reinforce with him that he will need to follow town ordinances and that this will not be part of light up.
- Light Update: Fire Truck broke down, Paul has offered his lift truck again, the 80 foot is in the shop, 120 foot is in MA at a job, hoping that we can have 2 crews out at the same time to finish up lights.
- Photographer: We all agreed that this is not the best idea, Christina is reaching out to see if the company that provided a booth at the school dance would donate to this event as well.

- CWPM is a contracted service for Thomaston, we have asked them to bring additional garbage cans for the night of.
- Ladie's choral club may come to do caroling in the street and in the festival of trees
- Live nativity cannot go in front of the Congregational Church because of the lawn, we can have it in the Veteran's park (Park Street). Or we can have the DJ in the Park or the nativity.

Open Discussion:
Night of – if we are able to use the First Selectmen's conference room, can we bring in crockpot type meals so that we will have hot meals and a place to go warm up throughout the day.

Meeting Adjourned:
Hedy. Peggy – adjourned at 7:48pm

Upcoming Meetings:
November 5, 12, 19