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Notice of Annual Membership Meeting

Dear Chamber Member:

The Windsor Chamber of Commerce, Inc., will hold an Annual Membership Meeting on June 23, 2021 beginning at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Chamber's office at 261 Broad Street, Windsor, Connecticut. Business to be taken up at the meeting will be:

1. General Discussion of the Condition of the Chamber
2. Election of Officers and Directors
3. Installation of Officers and Directors
4. Presentation of Chamber Awards:
 1. Board Member of the Year
 2. Volunteer of the Year
 3. Frank D. Parker Memorial Beautification Award
 4. Windsor Citizen of the Year
 5. Jerry Hallas Memorial Award

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote FOR all officer and director nominees. You can vote either by attending the meeting or submitting a proxy online (voting instructions are below).

This packet contains detailed information on the officer and director candidates to be voted on. If you have any further questions concerning the meeting or the proposals, please feel free to contact us at 860-688-5165.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we would like to express our appreciation for your continued membership in the Chamber and support of our mission: to create connections that grow local businesses and strengthen our community.

Sincerely yours,

Shannon Rabbett
Chair, Board of Directors
Windsor Chamber of Commerce



How to Vote by Proxy

The proxy form is available online. Visit this web page to vote:

<https://www.windsorcc.org/vote>

Enter your name and the member company you're representing, then your choices for officers, directors, and proposals. Then click "Submit Vote."

Report of the Nominations Committee

Pursuant to Article III, Section 5 of the Chamber bylaws, a Nominations Committee was formed to recommend candidates for officers and directors and submit a written report to the membership. The committee's recommendations are below.

Shannon Rabbett for Board Chair

Shannon Rabbett was born and raised in Windsor. A graduate of Windsor High School, she went on to earn her Bachelors degree in Psychology and Philosophy at Simmons College in Boston. After living in and around Boston for several years, she returned to Windsor in 2005 and began her insurance career, joining Rabbett Insurance Agency. Founded in 1986, the Agency is a full-service shop, specializing in Personal, Commercial, Life and Health insurance products.



An avid believer in supporting her community, Rabbett has held several volunteer positions supporting the Town's Shad Derby events, including Shad Derby Committee Chair. She is currently President of the Professional Insurance Agents of Connecticut (PIACT).

Shannon resides in Windsor with her husband, Hyatt and their two children Raiden and Elodi.

Steve Porcaro for Vice Chair

As the owner 1-4-All Coaching, LLC since 2005, Steve is passionate about helping individuals and organizations achieve their goals through effective sales, leadership, and business development strategies. We live in a world where it is harder and harder to be heard.

Steve founded SalesPlus MVP Coaching & Training Academy to provide the education, tools and tactics to cut through the noise. His mission is to empower growth, by not only giving you the strategies and techniques to improve but also by providing continued support to business owners, solopreneurs, and teams who are dedicated to helping organizations level up.



Steve is a graduate of Coach University and Mohegan Community College. His previous experiences include serving as a surgical technologist in the U.S. Navy, an independent sales consultant and trainer for major medical device companies, Certified Master OASIS Trainer, and a DISC Behaviors Facilitator.

He is active in the local community and serves on various boards and committees, including the Boy Scouts of America, CT Rivers Council, the Windsor Chamber of Commerce, Windsor Human Relations Commission, Windsor Emergency Management, and is an active board member of the International Coach Federation and Past President of the Connecticut chapter.

A Massachusetts native, Steve moved to Connecticut while serving in the US Navy in 1983, and never left. He and his wife moved to Windsor in 1992 to raise three boys and three dogs. His hobbies include reading, cooking, and backpacking the tallest mountains in New England. Some of his favorite things about Windsor are its diversity, history and sense of community.

Mary Welenc for Secretary

Mary Welenc has over 30 years experience in the financial service industry. As a Vice President and Banking Center Manager at Webster Bank, she is responsible for the achievement of customer service, employee development, sales, operations, and cross sell initiatives in the Windsor Banking Center and market area.

Mary graduated from Western New England College with a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration degree. She has worked in the Windsor area for the past 11 years. Mary is dedicated to service her local community and has been an active supporter of the United Way for many years. Mary has served on the Chamber board for two years, one as Secretary, and participates on the Ambassador committee.



As a member of the Webster Bank Family, Mary supports their mission to help individuals, families and businesses achieve their financial goals and looks to continually give back to the community in which she serves.

Mary-Lynn Kinney for Treasurer

Mary-Lynn Kinney is Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Windsor Federal Savings whose responsibilities include managing and overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Association.

Starting in August of 2000 as Vice President / Controller, she quickly was promoted in April 2003 to Vice President / Chief Financial Officer and again in July 2007 to EVP/CFO due to her extensive financial analysis, budgeting experience and over 25 years in the financial industry. She was again promoted to her current position in 2019.

Prior to joining Windsor Federal Savings, Mary-Lynn held the position of Vice President of Accounting and Financial Reporting for Mechanics Savings Bank. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the College of the Holy Cross and an honors graduate of the National School of Banking, she also held the position of Treasurer for the Huntington House Museum. Mary-Lynn and her family live in South Windsor, CT.



Yvonne Mitto for Director

Yvonne Mitto is the President of Mitto & Associates, LLC. As a speaker, trainer and leadership development consultant, she brings extensive experience in leadership, communication, teamwork and human behavioral analysis (DISC) assessments to her work. Her skills were developed and honed over her 15+ year career in the Finance, Human Resources and Communications organizations at the former United Technologies Corporation (UTC).

Combining the experience and insights of her corporate and entrepreneurial background along with her advanced leadership training, Yvonne focuses on helping companies, organizations and small business owners grow the strength of their teams by working to create more effective communication, transformational leadership and high-performance teamwork. She understands the key role leadership plays in all aspects of business and has the ability to work with leaders and their teams to assess their situation, make recommendations and help develop an action plan that produces results.



Building on this success, Yvonne became a certified member of the John Maxwell Team where she is trained and mentored by the renowned leadership expert, John C. Maxwell and his world-class faculty. She is a John Maxwell Team Executive Director and serves as a member of the John Maxwell Team President's Advisory Council (PAC).

She holds a master's degree in Human Resource Management with a certificate in Diversity Training from Cambridge College, and a master's degree in Theological Studies with a focus on Leadership Effectiveness from Bethel University. She is also a graduate of the Women's Campaign School at Yale University. She serves on numerous non-profit boards and is a Notary Public.

Yvonne and her husband Eaton are Windsor residents for the past 29 years and they are proud parents of three adult children and three adorable granddaughters (Abigail, Caroline and Isabel).

Terese Newman for Director

Terese Newman is a graphic designer and artist with over 40 years of experience. She holds a BFA from the University of Connecticut and an MFA from the University of the Arts (Philadelphia).

Currently Terese runs a design studio in Windsor where she focuses on branding, print works and web design. Locally, she re-branded the Windsor Adult Education program and currently designs all the collateral material for that organization. She works for several non-profit organizations as well as corporate clients.

As a fine artist, Terese works in three disciplines: printmaking, oil painting and mixed media collage. She has taught at Paier College of Art and has worked for Sol LeWitt. Her paintings and prints are in various collections, including Sol LeWitt, University of Connecticut and dozens of private collections. Her work has been shown at Marilyn Butler Fine Arts, New Mexico; The Exquisite Corpse in New York City; Jacob Javits Trade Center in New York City, Artworks Gallery in Hartford and several group shows in New England.



Terese has lived with her husband, Stephen McKay, in Windsor since 1995 and has raised her two daughters here, as well as her two stepchildren. Her daughters attended Windsor Public Schools and are graduates of Rochester Institute of Technology and New York University.



Camille Roye-Fisher for Director

Camille Roye-Fisher is the Owner & CEO Care For You LLC. Camille chose to live in Windsor because she believes Windsor is diverse, has great culture and is a great place to raise her family. She has a BA in Psychology from UCONN, an MBA and is also pursuing her doctorate in Leadership at the University of Phoenix.

Camille takes pride in serving her community and has done so in different capacities such as board member and program director for a Non-profit organization. She has held memberships to other Chamber and networking working organizations. Camille is passionate about caring for the aging and disabled. As an Aging Life Care™ Professional and Member of the Aging Life Care™ Association, she continues to explore collaborative efforts and partnerships to support the elder and disabled population she serves in her community.

Camille resides in Windsor with her husband, Jayson and their children.

Frank Parker Memorial Beautification Award

In 1981, The Windsor Chamber of Commerce began a program to recognize those Windsor businesses that put forth a special effort to maintain a high standard of beautification of their property. In 1991, the Chamber renamed this award to honor Frank D. Parker, founding partner of Parker-Ellingwood Insurance Agency. Frank was a long time champion of Windsor businesses and the Windsor Chamber of Commerce. This award honors Mr. Parker's dedication to the community he lived in throughout his business life.

2020-2021 Recipient: Jordan Dental Health Group

For its renewal of 313 Bloomfield Avenue, and for contributing to Windsor's "inner beauty" with the I Am... Windsor project at Sage Park Middle School.



Jerry Hallas Memorial Award

This award is presented in honor of Mr. J. Jeremiah Hallas, one of the group of forty Windsor business people who revitalized the Chamber in 1949. Mr. Hallas served as Chamber President in 1953-54. In addition to his Chamber work, Mr. Hallas founded the Windsor News Weekly in 1944. While living over thirty years in Windsor, Mr. Hallas served as Executive Assistant and Press Secretary to both Governor Wilbert Snow and Governor Raymond Baldwin. In 1947, he was appointed state political commentator for WTIC radio. He handled public relations in Connecticut for the 1952 Eisenhower campaign and the 1956 campaign for former U.S. Senator, Prescott Bush. We salute and thank Mr. Hallas for his outstanding contribution. The Windsor Chamber of Commerce expresses its appreciation for the dedication of our Jerry Hallas Memorial Award recipients and the service they have provided to the Chamber and the Town of Windsor.

2020-2021 Recipient: Sarah Gilligan

In recognition of outstanding service to the Windsor business community and Chamber of Commerce.

A lifelong resident of Connecticut, Sarah is a native of Meriden and a twenty-five-year resident of Windsor, where she lives with her husband, Dan. In Windsor, Sarah and Dan found a small, diverse community in which they could raise their then-new family, find warm neighbors and friends, and become part of a thriving business environment. Sarah and Dan are terribly proud of their two daughters, Amy and Lauren, both Windsor High School grads.

As the owner and principal of Cerebration since 1991, Sarah offers writing and graphic design services that make her clients look their best while telling their best stories. A generalist who loves to ask questions and learn new things, she has worked for clients in technology, health care, fitness, retail, non-profits, real estate development, human resources, damage remediation ... even dog walking. Previously, she worked as a magazine editor and a technical writer. Sarah attributes her long career as a freelancer to the experience of having a truly terrible boss at her first job.





Sarah is a graduate of the University of Connecticut, with a major in English and a minor in history. To this day, she remains fascinated by history, the human experience and the importance of understanding and communicating it all clearly. She believes that the stories we tell shape the way we view, experience and remember our lives.

At the Windsor Chamber of Commerce, Sarah served on the board of directors, as a vice president and as president from 2018–20. She was previously a committee chair, board member and officer at the North Central Connecticut Chamber of Commerce. She is a member of First Town Downtown and has volunteered for Preserve Windsor, the Windsor Refugee Resettlement Committee, Northern Connecticut Ballet, the Unitarian Society of Hartford and Project Santa.

In her free time, Sarah reads, writes fiction, hikes, exercises (she's a kickboxing/MMA group exercise addict) and rides her bike around our fair town. Her favorite things about Windsor are its diversity, grit and sense of community.

Windsor Citizen of the Year

This is the 23rd year the Windsor Chamber of Commerce has presented the Citizen of the Year Award. This award is presented to a citizen who has provided outstanding service to our community.

2020-2021 Recipient: Art Miller

Deacon, author, radio, and former television host, Vietnam-era veteran, veteran civil rights worker—and Windsor resident—Art Miller is the retired owner and president of A. Miller investments. Miller was ordained a deacon for the Archdiocese of Hartford in 2004. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1966 and received his MBA from DePaul University in 1972. Currently he is the director of the Office for Black Catholic Ministries.

Mr. Miller was arrested and jailed during the summer of 1963 as he sat in silent protest over the sustained use of racial bigotry to separate black Americans from the imbued rights of all Americans. A nationally known preacher, he has traveled throughout the country raising the need of conversion to “Radical Love.” Here in Windsor, he has spoken at, facilitated, or just listened to countless community conversations.



At public forums, houses of worship, schools and universities across the country, Deacon Miller addresses issues of social injustice. With firsthand knowledge he speaks to his audiences from the perspective of an African American who grew up on the South Side of Chicago in the 1940s and 1950s. Deacon Miller was 10 years old in 1955 when his schoolmate Emmett Till, age 14, was brutally murdered in Mississippi for allegedly whistling at a white woman—an incident that energized the nascent Civil Rights Movement. His recently released book “The Journey to Chatham”, details the historic events seen through the eyes of Emmett’s friends.

Deacon Miller is a certified trainer in Dr. King’s nonviolence philosophy and to this day addresses 21st-century examples of the societal tendency to embrace violence. Echoing the thoughts of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., he believes that as part of the great human experience, no one can sit idly tolerant of the great injustices that happen anywhere in the world.

“If God were to give us an 11th commandment,” Deacon Miller proposes, “I believe it would read: Thou shall not be a bystander.”