

Coloma Watervliet Area Chamber of Commerce
Minutes June 12, 2007
Board of Trade
NO QUORUM

Board Members Present: Sandy Kraemer, Pat Moody, Ken Sutton and Lee Scherwitz

Board Members Absent: Debra Shannon, Thelma Evett, Tom Gear, Matt Moser and Charlie Stein

Members Present: Rick Warner, Jennifer Sipla, Edith Munchow, Alex Gates, Rick Rasmussen, Sue Moser, Dave Scheuer, and Chana Kniebes

Call to Order and Introductions: President Kraemer called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Scherwitz and supported by Rasmussen to approve the June 12th minutes as presented.

Treasurer's Report: There is \$3,584.68 as of May 31, 2007 in the chamber savings account and \$13,723.52 in the chamber checking account. Bills paid in the month of May total \$612.92.

Membership Report: Kniebes reported that there are 135 total chamber members. Randy's BP is our newest complimentary member. Other new chamber members are 248 Event District and Mobile Technician and we have a membership exchange with the Greater South Haven Area Chamber of Commerce.

Old Business:

Kelly Miller Circus Update: There is still time to find a location for the August 24th Circus. Supervisor Hutchins from Watervliet Township will check and see if the Watervliet Airport would be receptive to the idea and Sipla will also check out the location.

New Business:

Parade of Homes: On July 26th there will be the Southwest Michigan Home Builders Annual Parade of Homes Business After Hours. This year it will be at the new River Oaks subdivision in Watervliet. The CWAEDC and the CWACC were approached to help host the event this year. A tri-fold brochure will be done by Xpress Printing and Kniebes will forward on logos and information to them about the CWAEDC and the CWACC. So mark you calendars for July 26 from 5-7 p.m. afterhours. This is also your chance to purchase Parade of Homes tickets at a 2 for 1 price.

Workplace Training: Rick Warner from Lane Automotive will be the speaker at our first Education at Lunch event on July 19th at the Friendly. The lunch will begin at 11:30 and the program will follow ending at 1:00 p.m. The cost will be \$5.00 and includes lunch. Kraemer thanked Warner for volunteering for this education seminar.

Website: Kniebes shared with the board that she invited John Ruder from Genesis Web Design to come to her office and look over the current Chamber and EDC website and give her feedback. The current website is not very user friendly and it would be helpful to be able to update the site from the office. The CWAEDC at its June meeting voted to spend up to \$1,500 to update the website. This is a shared website so there should be a shared expense. Kniebes will invite Ruder to the next chamber meeting to give a brief presentation on the updated site.

Newspaper Shop At Home Ads: Kniebes reported that she spoke with Karl Bayer from the Tri-City Record about doing the Shop at Home Ad that the 3 communities of Coloma Hartford and Watervliet ran in the Tri-City newspaper years ago. A mock up of the ad was included in the packet. Kniebes will contact someone from the Hartford Chamber to see if they would like to participate.

Miscellaneous:

North Berrien Historical Museum: Edith Munchow introduced Alex Gates who is the new director/curator of the Museum. Kraemer welcomed Gates to the community and wished him success in his new position.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Kniebes and supported by Scherwitz to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

The next regular chamber meeting will be held on July 10, 2007 12 noon at the Friendly Tavern.

Respectfully submitted,

Chana Kniebes, Recording Secretary