

Coloma Watervliet Area Chamber of Commerce
February 9th 2016
Mill Creek Charlie's

Board Members Present: Karla Smothers, Dave Scheuer, Linda Jackson, Jim Frazier, Steve Graffenius, Matt Moser, Denise Barowicz, Katie Richcreek, Tammy Yeager,

Board Members Absent: Tom Gear and Rochelle Ulleg

Members Present: Tyna Smith, Peter Bush, Angie Frazier, Sandy Kraemer, Kevin Schooley, Justin VanFerrari, Sherina Gonzalez, Kylie Mellinger, Ed Richcreek and Chana Kniebes.

Others Present: Rick Rasmussen

Call to Order: President Smothers called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. and introductions were made.

Minutes: A motion was made by Kraemer and supported by Jackson to approve the minutes from January 12th as presented. All in favor motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Jackson went over the finance report for January. Total bills in January were **\$1,312.19** (\$1,000 Resource Sharing, \$254.77 Cardmember Services for QB ½ yearly subscription for payroll and \$57.42 for Newsletter)

The checking account balance as of January 31st was \$5,383.89 and deposits were \$100.00 for dues. The savings account balance is \$4,292.59. A motion was made by M. Moser and supported by Smith to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills. All in favor, motion carried.

Membership Report: There are 135 current members.

New Business:

Ambassador Club: Smothers shared that we need some members to become Ambassadors for the Chamber to help with new membership and to pursue any members that have not renewed. If you are interested in this please contact Chana at the office and she will put you on list to set up a first meeting.

Old Business:

Guide 2016-2018: Ads are being sold by Sherina from Leader Publication for our new full color guide that will come out in May. Sherina passed out flyers and updated members on the cost and possibility for ad design if you need that, this is

Website: The website is updated and will go on line soon. This is a complete overhaul and Chris from Lighthouse Colorprint has done a great job. It is still in

the tweaking stages and there is still time to have you banner ad on the site for free.

Member Updates:

River of Life: Pastor Linda updated members on activities at the Church. There is a marriage seminar going on at River of Life Church will be a point of drop off for the Flint Water Drive.

Honor Credit Union: Auto Loan promotions are going on.

Lakeland Watervliet: Yeager reported that the Hospital Auxiliary is doing their candy and flowers sale on Friday Feb 12th.

Vincent J. Jewelers: Valentine's Day is just around the corner, so stop in and see the beautiful gift possibilities for your sweetheart.

Freshwater Community Church: Justin shared that the church is doing a series on relationships and the March Easter Egg Hunt is already being planned. Freshwater can also help transport cases of water from the collection sites over to M & M Polishing if needed.

Watervliet City DDA: Rick Rasmussen sat in for Bob Becker and updated members on the grant applications that will be resubmitted for the Watervliet County Park. The word is collaboration when it comes to reapplying and there will be group of municipal leaders that will meet on February 22nd to discuss river clean up and connecting trails.

Coloma Township: Kraemer reported that the grant that was submitted for the former Washington School site was not approved at this time but will be reapplied for in the future.

Edward Jones Investments: Barowicz reported that Money Smart week is the 3rd week in April and there will be upcoming seminars held locally for anyone interested. There will be a seminar on April 26th at the Coloma Public Library.

Bestway Disposal: Graffenius reported that over \$11,000 was raised at the spaghetti dinner on Saturday, January 30th at the Fire Station in Coloma for Tammy Obermesik. Tami is the office manager at Bestway as she was diagnosed with colon cancer and monies raised will go to support her and her family during this difficult time.

Coloma Community School: Superintendent Bush that the school continues their Strategic Planning meetings to set their Mission Statement, Core Values and Strategic Goals in place.

Watervliet Schools: Superintendent Schooley reported on the meetings that will take place concerning the possibility of a five year high school term so that graduating seniors could have already earned their Associates Degree when they complete high school. Phase II construction will take place this summer at the H.S. and Middle School.

Central Assembly: Richcreek reported that the church has Life Groups Tuesday evenings at the church and the Central will once again have a water tent at the 4th July festivities in Watervliet this summer.

North Berrien Historical Museum: Katie shared about their Holiday Open House in December and how well attended that event was and the February Valentine party held at the museum on February 6th. On February 16th there will be a program on 50 Years of the Heritage Museum Fashion.

Van Buren Reminder: January was a busy month and they are always looking for new advertisers for their publications if anyone is interested they can contact Tyna.

Chemical Bank: Chemical Bank collected 150 hats, gloves and scarves during their recent Mittens for Michigan Campaign. The bank is hiring 8 summer tellers for full time temporary positions.

Miscellaneous: Medley in the Park is Saturday June 11th with live music, car show, and vendors. This takes the place of the former BBQ Blues and Cruise. We hope to have different genres of music until 8:00 p.m. that evening watch for more details in the coming weeks.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Kraemer and supported by Scheuer to adjourn the meeting at 12:50 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Chana Kniebes
Recording Secretary