

# BREMEN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## Minutes of the May 23, 2024, meeting

The May meeting was called to order by vice president Cenell Boch in the absence of David Foltz. Those present: Krista Ankrom, Cenell Boch, Marilyn Boyd, Vincent Carpico, Brenda Carney with Gary Carney and Stefani Young (of APG media), Lydia Coakley, Toni Harper with granddaughter Crystal, Sue Henwood, Laura Kennedy, Dee Mowry, Billy Robinette, Sue Schmitz, David Weber and speaker Mary Hoffman.

Dee Mowry led the group in the pledge of allegiance and gave the invocation. Following lunch and introductions, the secretary's report of the April meeting was approved as e-mailed on a motion by Dee Mowry, seconded by Marilyn Boyd. The treasurer reported the following account balances:

checking:	\$ 5 922.65
community fund	7 178.07
CD's	12 327.89
	13 642.54
	5 140.52

The report was received on a motion by David Weber, seconded by Toni Harper; the motion carried. There has been no response from the state in regard to the unclaimed funds paperwork submitted.

In old business, Cenell urged members to complete the Chamber survey (link available at <https://forms.gle/dYHW1yskahUeiHHD7>) She highlighted the informational rack cards we have available and invited new members to attend the first meeting as our guests.

There was no new business presented. The chamber extended condolences to treasurer Sue Henwood on the death of her husband Mike, who was also a member, and thanks for all his years of contributions to the village in a variety of roles.

### Announcements:

Fairhope Hospice's **Trash to Treasurers** will occur June 7 and 8 at the fairgrounds; receipts will benefit the Memorial Fund.

Media kits for the chamber directory to be developed by APG media are available.

Logan will host a **Shop and Adopt** in conjunction with the Hocking County Animal Shelter on June 22, from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., behind the Logan theater.

The Bremen Oktoberfest committee is seeking sponsorships for stage events, as well as food trucks and table vendors, for the one day celebration planned for September 25, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Speaker Mary Hoffman gave an update on progress in the village since the 2006 survey by Melody Bourcher. She attributed many of the changes in the last four years to coordination of efforts by the village council and its employees. Grant moneys have resulted in a 99% automation of the water plant and remote readers for household water meters. The ten acres east of Howell Park are being cleaned up by Mark Sells' Rushcreek preservation group. Improvements to Broad Street's sidewalks and lighting were requested by residents in Mary's more recent survey and will be part of a \$750 000 grant that has already seen street and sidewalk work in the village. As Broad Street is also state route 664 where it passes through the village, it is an important first impression for visitors. Concerns about the Shellhamer building, with empty first floor store fronts, are being addressed, although the current zoning code is too out-dated to deal with these new problems. Fortunately, the county is doing a zoning up-date to align with the state's regulations, and this may help with local zoning needs. Dowling Park renovation, which Mary spearheaded, has started efforts to make the downtown appealing, and the Sunday evening "Music in the Park" concerts are bringing people in to see it and do business there.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting will be Thursday, June 27, at noon at the **Bremen Bethel Presbyterian church - note the change in location for the next five months.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Schmitz, secretary