

BREMEN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Minutes of the July 25, 2024 Meeting

The Bremen Area Chamber met at noon on Thursday, July 25, at the Bremen Bethel Presbyterian church. Those present: Krista Ankrom, Chad Belville, Cenell Boch, Marilyn Boyd, Brenda Carney, Vince Carpico, Lydia Coakley, David Foltz, Jonett Haberfield, Toni Harper, Sue Henwood, Laura Kennedy, Jessica Martinez, Billy Robinette, Sue Schmitz, Ken Shofter, Heather Yontz, Stephani Young. In the delayed arrival of the president and absence of the interim vice president, Cenell Boch opened the meeting with a welcome and led the group in the pledge of allegiance. She then offered the invocation; the ladies of the church served lunch.

Dave Foltz opened the business meeting with a request for any additions or corrections to the minutes of the June meeting as e-mailed. There being none, Brenda Carney moved to approve them, the motion was seconded by Marilyn Boyd and carried. The treasurer reported the following account balances:

checking:	\$5 986.19
community fund:	6 821.11
CD:	12 679.19
CD:	14 031.31
CD:	5 238.37

There has been no word from the State on the application for unclaimed funds. School supplies have been purchased and will be stored until the December meeting at Bremen Elementary. The community fund is being moved to a money market account which will draw interest and permit the writing of checks. Sue Schmitz made a motion to provide the meal for free to first meeting visitors; it was seconded by Heather Yontz. Lydia Coakley amended it to be posted on the Facebook page by Tracy Shahan; the motion carried.

The meeting was then opened to a member sharing forum:

- The theme for the 2024 Scarecrow competition will be "Occupations" and there will be a new category for inflatables - Toni Harper
- APG Media needs commitments to Bremen Directory ads by August 9, with content due a week later. Eighteen had signed up to date. In editorial content, Dave will prepare a letter on behalf of the chamber, membership information will be included, and the Bremen Oktoberfest of September 28th will be highlighted. Publication is set for September 12, so the directory should be available for distribution at the festival.- Brenda Carney, Stephani Young

- The bids for village water meter updates, with drainage and paving work to be done concurrently, have gone out. The contractor
- will have 30 days to start, then 90 days to complete. - Billy Robinette
- The Bremen Bank being local can help with customers' scam and I.D. breaches. - Heather Yontz
- The Bremen Area Historical Society is open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10:00 to 2:00. With the completion of the new addition, they will have new displays and layout by next spring. - Ken Shofter
- The Pickering House will host the 40th anniversary celebration with an ice cream social from 12:00 to 2:00. Fairhope Hospice will be opening a palliative care clinic in September. - Laura Kennedy
- Altercare/Lanfair has 84 beds divided among long term and short term care, rehabilitation, and locked down mental wing. - Jessica Martinez
- Fairfield Union schools all have new chillers for A/C, ordered in June of '23, installed in June of '24. Driver's Ed, both class and driving sessions, are being offered, and scholarships are available through JFS which can cover the fees. The first day back for students will be August 15. The YMCA will be offering childcare for two and a half hours before and after school.. Application has been made for federal and state programs covering free breakfasts and lunches for all students. - Chad Belville
- Local tourism is worth \$724 per household in tax burden relief, as well as representing over 5 000 jobs. GayFad's first "*Bottoms Up*" glass show brought in some 20 000 visitors As Lancaster has only 200 hotel rooms available, the Fairfield County Visitor's guide being developed is seeking short term rentals to promote.— Jonett Haberfield
- The Workforce Center offered eight summer sessions in robotics, electrical, carpentry, and STEM for high school seniors. County public transit is working on expanding loops to get people to jobs and to prepare villages and townships for coming development. - Vince Carpico
- In addition to the "*Wellness with Cenell*" connection to FMCI, Cenell Boch will be a visiting professor in Chicago for the coming year.
- Foltz Ag Enterprises has become the *Klaus* combine sales and repair venue for Central Ohio.

The meeting adjourned at 1:18.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Schmitz, secretary