

**Metamora Chamber of Commerce
Meeting Minutes – March 8, 2023**

In Attendance:

Kim Smallman, Metamora State Bank
Marianne Gleckler
Mark & Lynn Vandenbusche, Vintage Acres
Sandy Slusarski, Metamora Area Historical Society
Beverly Engler
Karen Siefker, Evergreen Community Library & Village of Metamora
Carrie Hulett, Evergreen Community Library
J.R. Green, Farmhouse Sabbath
Cheryl Geer
Gary Loar, Loar's Auto Repair
John Vershum
Kathy Sharples
Dave Sharples, Cabinet Maker
Savannah Armstrong, Metamora State Bank & Bigs Bar
Cathy Mossing, Village of Metamora

Old Business

1. Membership renewals for 2023
 - * Forms were emailed back in January
 - * Kim also had printed forms available
 - * Reminder to mail to the PO box or drop at the Metamora State Bank
2. Northeast Ohio Chamber of Commerce
 - * Kim reminded that this membership would offer our businesses the opportunity for group health insurance
 - * Application has been submitted, but no response has been received
 - * Kim will follow up
3. Party in the Park Update
 - * TIMES
 - Friday – 6:00 PM – Midnight
 - Saturday – 9:00 AM – Midnight
 - Sunday – Noon – 7:00 PM
 - * KIDS BALL GAMES - will run on Friday night and Saturday; each of the rec teams will invite a non-EHS team to play against
 - * WIFFLE BALL - Sunday
 - * CRAFT SHOW – Cheryl has 29 vendors already with another 15 or so that have shown interest. Need to get back to park to make sure there is enough room for that many
 - * VOLLEYBALL – will be played Saturday
 - * CHICKEN DINNERS – being run by the Village
 - * CAR SHOW – expecting double the cars this year and will be held Saturday only

- * ANTIQUE TRACTOR SHOW – tractors will be on display all weekend
 - * CONCESSIONS – Kim will reach out to the EYA to confirm which days/shifts they will be able to cover. Chamber members will be asked to fill in the gaps
 - * MAGIC SHOW – will be held Saturday from 11-12
 - * PEDAL PULL – will be held Saturday from 12-1
 - * BALLOON LADY will be back on Saturday – time TBD
 - * ENTERTAINMENT – band or DJ on both Friday and Saturday night
 - * CORNHOLE – will start later this year to avoid conflict with other kids activities – probably around 6:00
 - * PARADE – It was mentioned at the Party in the Park meeting that the band may not be able to attend (they typically take the month of June off). Originally, no band, no parade, but Mark suggested we use a pickup or flatbed to put a sound system on so music could be played. Need to determine if Friday night or Saturday would cause the least interruption and need someone to take charge of the parade if we move forward with it
 - * NEXT PARTY IN THE PARK MEETING – Wednesday, April 5 @ Jeff Truckor's home
4. Chamber Board of Directors
- * Mark Vandebusch nominated Cathy Mossing to serve as Secretary, Savannah Armstrong seconded, and all voted yes
 - * Maryanne Gleckler nominated Savannah Armstrong to serve as Social Media Director, Karen Siefker seconded, and all voted yes
 - * Cathy Mossing nominated Michael Fischer to serve as Treasurer, Mark Vandebusch seconded, and all voted yes
 - * Gary Loar will serve on the board as the Chamber's representative on the Fulton County Economic Development Committee
 - * Kim Smallman and Jeff Truckor will serve on the board as advisors
 - * Still need to fill the President and Vice President positions
5. Meeting Dates
- * Chamber meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of odd months (January, March, etc.)
 - * Board meetings will be held the 2nd Wednesday of the even months (February, April, etc.)

New Business

1. Village Fall Event
 - * Falling into Fun will be held Saturday, October 14
 - * Chamber is running the beer garden for this event and will receive the profits
 - * Food trucks, craft show, hayrides, music, beer, cornhole, trunk or treat and other kids activities are being planned
2. Scholarship Program
 - * Changes have been made due to lack of response
 - * Community service requirements have been decreased to 4 hours to be entered into the drawing; each additional hour will be another entry

- * There will be two \$1000 scholarships given away – one for a trade school and one for a 2 or 4 year college
- * Students will earn community service credits from May 1 – April 30 each year; the drawing will be held in early May so that the winners can be presented their scholarship at the EHS awards banquet
- * Kathy Sharples asked if the program was limited to EHS students; some discussion took place. Mark Vandebusch motioned to allow the program to be open to all area students, Cathy Mossing seconded, all voted yes
- * Maryanne Gleckler asked if community service for activities other than Chamber sponsored could be used toward the program; discussion took place. It was decided that businesses who need volunteers for projects can submit the project to the Board. If the board determines the project qualifies, forms will be given to the business for the kids to complete
- * Community Service Day is tentatively planned for Saturday, April 29

Open Forum

1. Chamber profits

- * Marianne inquired as to how the profits from Part in the Park will be spent other than the scholarships
- * Much discussion followed along with many great suggestions: flags on the poles throughout the Village, flowerpots throughout, benches, park signage, assistance with business facades and appearances, assistance with grant opportunities, and more
- * Kim outlined the process as follows: anyone with a suggestion should submit it to the Chamber Board along with cost estimates. The Board will compile a list of suggested projects/purchases, prioritize them and bring them before the entire Chamber for final decisions

2. Newsletter, emails, business spotlights, promotion, etc.

- * Marianne shared that the Wauseon Chamber sends numerous emails to their members that include business spotlights
- * Much discussion followed
- * Cathy will email all Chamber members and request a business bio/profile along with pictures. These will be used to spotlight businesses both on the Facebook page and via emails
- * The Village will also add a page to their website for all area businesses and these bios/profiles and picture will be added

Adjournment: Cheryl Geer moved to adjourn the meeting, Mark Vandebusch seconded, all voted yes

*****NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 10 AT 5:30*****
Location to be determined