

# Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce

## Minutes of the February 22, 2024 meeting

Those present: Sam Bitts, Jay Boyd, Marilyn Boyd, Tim Byers, Brenda Carney, Lydia Coakley, David Foltz, Sue Henwood, Laura Kennedy, Rich Lines, Dee Mowry, Billy Robinette, Sue Schmitz, Ken Shofter, David Weber, Heather Yontz and speaker Will Roberts.

President David Foltz welcomed those present and invited all to join in the pledge of allegiance. Dee Mowry gave the invocation, and the ladies of the church served lunch. Introductions were made. The secretary's report of the January meeting was accepted as published on a motion by Marilyn Boyd, seconded by Dee Mowry and carried. The treasurer Sue Henwood reported the following account balances:

Checking:	\$ 4 998.05
Community fund	7 027.15
CD	12 451.04
CD	13 778,83
CD	5 134.29

The report was received on a motion by David Weber, seconded by Rich Lines and carried. Sue noted that the 3rd certificate was renewed on February 14, 2024 for seven months at 5%APR. Twenty-five membership renewals and nine plaques for the sign at 37/664 have been received to date; both are due by March 1. Cost of a place on the sign is \$300 for the year, plus the cost of a plaque. The next executive board meeting will be March 25 at the BCM church.

Old business: The prototype of a rack card with BACofC information was reviewed and prices of \$87.30 for 200 or \$151.81 for 400 were submitted. The consensus was that additional bids should be sought before going forward. Membership decals will be available at the March meeting.

### Announcements:

The March chamber meeting will be held at the **.Rushcreek Pub & Grub**; menu will be goulash, salad, bread stick and brownie. Reservations still need to be made with Sue Henwood.

The Bremen Community Methodist Church will hold a Steak Supper on March 9; tickets are \$10 and available from church members.

American Legion Post 20 will hold breakfasts each Sunday morning in May for a donation.

The speaker for the day was Will Roberts of the **Southern Ohio Chamber Alliance - SOCA**, which provides benefits to chambers so that they can in turn offer benefits to their members for their employees. This can be a major reason to join a chamber as buying power for programs is increased to hundreds of businesses and thousands of individuals. This can leverage rates that a small business could not meet on its own. The fourteen programs encompass health care, employee funded 401K's (which may be mandated by future state legislation), energy education (rate and potential savings of use changes comparisons). and Legal/I.D. Shield protection.

The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Schmitz, secretary