

Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce

Minutes of the June 22, 2023

Those present: Alyssa Barnecut, Chad Belville, Jay Boyd, Marilyn Boyd, Cenell Boch, Brenda Carney, Sue Henwood, Laura Kennedy, Rich Lines, Lynn McCandlish, Rick McCandlish, Sue Schmitz, David Weber, Heather Yontz. Vice President Cenell Boch welcomed the chamber members to the Rushcreek Pub & Grub and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was given by Sue Schmitz.

Minutes of the May meeting were approved as emailed, on a motion by David Weber and a second by Rich Lines. A summary of the June executive board meeting was given. The treasurer reported the following account balances:

checking	\$9 868.60
community fund	5 983.78
CD's	12 096.83
	13 386.84

She noted that the two CD's had made \$274.73 since being opened in March and proposed moving some of the checking account funds to a 7 month CD at an interest rate of 4.25%. David Weber moved to place \$5 000 from the checking account in such a CD; the motion was seconded by Marilyn Boyd and carried. Toni Harper moved that the chamber join the Bremen Area Historical Society at a membership fee of \$50; motion seconded by Heather Yontz and carried. Marilyn Boyd moved to provide \$200 in school supplies for the coming school year, seconded by David Weber and carried; Sue Henwood will purchase and store them until our December meeting at Bremen Elementary School. A new member to the chamber, IN LINE, was recognized.

In new business, the time and frequency of chamber meetings was discussed. The idea of a "Chamber Business After Hours" event from 5 to 7 p.m. was suggested and tabled. Cenell Boch will send out a questionnaire on the topic to the current membership, as well as to potential members. Support for the Bremen 4th of July parade will be provided by our participation - David Foltz will provide a vehicle, Toni Harper and Sue Schmitz will decorate. Heather Yontz moved that we provide up to \$200 toward decorations, seconded by Lynn McCandlish and carried. David Weber moved that the chamber fund the fall Scarecrow Contest at up to \$150, seconded by Brenda Carney and carried.

Rich Lines of Lines Auto Service was the speaker. He first touched on the importance of car maintenance, noting that poor tires alone are responsible for 11 000 accidents each year. He recommended the website *TRUE COST OF*

OWNERSHIP when deciding between buying new or used, and having potential used vehicles reviewed by a trusted mechanic. Rich then listed what sets his business apart: 1) quality service by ASC certified technicians 2) up-dated training yearly (paid by the employer) 3) digital vehicle inspections that leave a visual record 4) pricing based on estimates before doing work 5) free loaners and pick up/delivery 6) mentoring students who are in training 7) being eco-friendly by recycling tires, oil, aluminum and cardboard. In closing Rich gave his observations on what is needed to succeed in any business:

- 1) love what you do
- 2) stand behind your promises
- 3) develop a team of good people, supported by continued training and mission engagement
- 4) up-grade equipment as changes occur

Announcements:

the July 27 chamber meeting, location tba, will feature commissioner Fix Heath-Newark Diaper Drive till July 15

Senior Health Expo on August 25 at the Ed Sands building, Fairfield County fairgrounds

Family Fun Day October 7 at Mt. Aloysius

Bremen Elementary building getting a new roof, due to faulty design and construction

Grand View Cemetery has joined the Wreaths Across America program; wreaths are scheduled to be place on December 16

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by David Weber and seconded by Rich Lines.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Schmitz, secretary
