

Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce Minutes of the July 28, 2022 meeting

The Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, July 28, 2022, at the Bremen United Methodist church. The following members were present: Cenell Boch, Julie Bolyard, Marilyn Boyd, Tim Byers, Brenda Carney, Lydia Coakley, David Foltz, Jackie Hardman, Susan Henwood, Laura Kennedy, Lynn McCandlish, Rich McCandlish, Sue Schmitz, Ken Shafter, Linda Ward, David Weber, Denise Windard, Tim Woodard, Heather Yontz, and speaker Dr. Brian Varney. A quorum of members, as set forth in the constitution adopted July 26, 2018, was present.

President David Foltz called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Linda Ward offered the invocation, and the ladies of the church served lunch.

Minutes of the June meeting were approved as published on a motion by Marilyn Boyd, seconded by David Weber, and carried. The treasurer reported:

Checking:	\$5 042.97
Community fund	6 409.03
CD's	15 831.31
Sesqu. CD's	9 366.99

David Weber moved to receive the report, seconded by Marilyn Boyd; motion carried.

Announcements:

Reminder of the special election on August 2;
Village of Pickerington Ice Cream Social, August 4 from 11 to 1;
Perry County Tribune offering places on a business card directory for \$50;
United Way is soliciting projects and volunteers for the Community Care Day on September 14;
Perry County Housing Coalition's ticket auction on October 15 at Ste. Rose community center;
the BACofC meeting on August 25 will be at Bremen Bethel Presbyterian church.

Doctor Brian Varney was introduced as the speaker of the day. Although trained in family practice, Dr. Varney currently wears several hats. His geriatric practice with nursing homes spans Newark to Athens; he is also the medical director for FairHope Hospice and Palliative Care and the current elected coroner for Fairfield County. After five years of supervising a doctor who was addicted and

working toward reinstatement, and with the realization that 1 in 4 people are affected by some form of addiction, Dr. Varney added Outpatient Medical Addiction Therapy to his small family practice. Although viewed by the community with suspicion at first, he now sees 70 to 80 patients who are stable in recovery due to medications they use to maintain. While insurance will cover the cost of these prescriptions, he chooses not to accept insurance for office visits so as not to be tied to the companies' parameters.

The tablet medication *Suboxone* replaces the craving for narcotics like opioids and pain killers. Most addicts will be on it for life as a way to manage their addiction, although some may be able to wean off after a year. The injected medication *Vivitrol* is not as potent as *Suboxone* and can be helpful for patients with less severe addiction. These medications are a tool for managing addictions, but all addicts seeking recovery must also change their environment, including the people, places and activities they experienced while using and which can trigger relapses.

David Weber moved to adjourn at 1:15; Jackie Hardman seconded the motion and it carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Schmitz, secretary _____

Addendum to the Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce minutes of July 28, 2022

Heather Yontz move to donate \$200 from the Community Fund to provide school supplies locally; this was seconded by Jackie Hardman and carried on a voice vote. Treasurer Sue Henwood noted that there are a number of supply drives this time of year, so she will send the money to Bremen Elementary in December so that students will have items for the second half of the year.