

Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce

Minutes of the September 22, 2022, meeting

The Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce held its regular monthly meeting on September 22, 2022, at the Bremen Bethel Presbyterian church at noon. The following members were present: Alyssa Barnecut, Chad Belville, Julie Bolyard, Cenell Boch, Brenda Carney, Lydia Coakley, Jackie Hardman, Susan Henwood, Dawn Legg, Dee Mowry, Bill Robinette, Sue Schmitz, David Weber, Denise Wingard, Heather Yontz, and guest Roger Nott, principal of Bremen Elementary.

Vice president Cenell Boch opened the meeting with a welcome and led those present in the pledge of allegiance. This was followed by an invocation and an opportunity for members to introduce themselves and the entity they represent. *Country Lane Gardens* announced a need for candy donations for their “Trunk or Treat” on October 26.

David Weber moved the approval of the August meeting minutes as distributed by email; Denise Wingard seconded the motion and it carried. Sue Schmitz, secretary, summarized the executive board’s meeting of September 12, 2022. Susan Henwood, treasurer reported the following fund balances:

checking account	\$6 956.97
community fund	4 136.52
3 CD total	15 835.47e
sesquicentennial CD’s	9 365.97.

David Weber moved to accept the treasurer’s report, seconded by Bill Robinette; motion approved.

Susan then reviewed the chamber’s sign board at Routes 37/664; it consists of 16 panels which can be rented for \$300 per year to advertise members’ businesses or groups. Those currently on the board will be given first chance to renew; new panels will be \$50 in addition to the year rental and should last several years. Moneys from the sign rentals will be used to maintain the sign, and the remainder will go to the Community Fund. A letter with details will be sent to all members for consideration. Heather Yontz moved that a Community Fund solicitation letter be sent early in November; this was seconded by David Weber and carried. Dee Mowry moved that David Foltz be authorized to bid \$200 from the

Community Fund at the Fairfield County Fair Junior Livestock Auction;
Denise Wingard seconded the motion and it carried.

Chad Belville, superintendent of Fairfield Union Local Schools, began his presentation by stating that the buildings and staff were ready to go in August, taking care of kids. After the disruptions of Covid, making them feel safe, secure and wanted translates into classroom success. As evidence of the latter, he shared the Ohio School Report Card for 2021-2022; Fairfield Union received 21 of 25 possible stars. tying with Pickerington and Bloom Carroll for best in the county. After isolation, elementary students needed to learn how to do school and form relationships; Behavioral Response Teams work to help kids catch up on social skills. At the upper grade levels, emphasis is on seeing that all students have some plan for after graduation; not *what to do*, but *how can we help you get there* While 60% are college bound and 6 to 7% are headed for the military, the undecided have programs through Eastland/ Fairfield Vocational School, work-release programs through FFA, and WorkForce Development career counselors who can arrange senior year's time shared between school and working. Last but not least, Mr. Belville introduced Mr. Roger Nott, the new principal at Bremen Elementary. His emphasis on meeting the needs of the kids first is in line with the district's priorities.

The speaker for the October 27 meeting will be Marcy Fields, of ADAM-H. Julie Bolyard moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by David Weber and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Schmitz, secretary _____ -