

St.Henry Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Place: Romer's in St.Henry

Date: 06/06/23

Members Present: John Yoder, Michelle Dues, Sharon Rindler, Lisa Niekamp-Urwin, Kelley Baker, Kim Baumer, Amy Wendel, Jackie Muhlenkamp, Josh Schmackers, David Romer, Frank Urwin, Karen Romer, Beth Butler, Pam Fishbaugh, and Adam Reichert.

Minutes from the May meeting were approved by Frank and seconded by Kim.

Our guest speaker was Beth Butler from Venture Linx (formerly CA Industries). Beth handed out a flier and brochure pertaining to their business which is based on helping students and adults with developmental disabilities and services they offer. Their mission is to support and empower students and adults to live fulfilling and rewarding lives through full participation in their community. Venture Linx currently has 34 employees who help coach 140 individuals. They are looking for businesses who they could partner with that might help the students/adults get acclimated in a work environment and in society.

Kim Baumer talked about the Chance Board for the picnic. We have 84 squares available (which will have Chamber Businesses name in them). Squares will be sold for \$25 each. We will only be doing ONE board the weekend of the SH picnic. Prizes will be as follows: 1st Prize: \$500, 2nd Prize: \$250, 3rd Prize \$100.

John Yoder handed out a list of the current groups we are supporting for the Combined Drive. Venture Linx has asked to be added to our current list. SH Boy and Girl Scouts have asked to be added (they are on there). We did talk about forming a committee (made up of: Eydie Kremer, Lisa Niekamp-Urwin, Beth Butler, John Yoder, Michelle Dues and Matt Lammers) who would send a letter to the current recipient groups to ensure they still meet the requirements of the Combined Drive. We also HIGHLY ENCOURAGE those on the list to attend a meeting throughout the year, so they can update the Chamber Members on what their organizations do.

David Romer gave an update on the Treasurer's Report. David also mentioned that Wabash Communications wants to be added to the Village Money List. We have a nice list (list was handed out) of local businesses who participate in the Village Money program (make GREAT gifts too)!

John Yoder said Stan Sutter (Village Administrator) reached out to him about the 2024 Eclipse. Sounds like Mercer County is "prime" area to watch the Eclipse. Date for that is April 8th, 2024 @ 3:00 PM. John will reach out to Jared Ebbing to see if Mercer County has anything special planned for the event. If you have IDEAS on how to make this an exciting experience for the community, please reach out to John Yoder.

Business After Hours: August 7th, 2023 from 5:00-7:00. We will be holding our first annual St.Henry Chamber of Commerce "Business After Hours" event! It will be held at the St.Henry Park Shelter House.

Kelley Baker and Lisa Niekamp-Urwin will be reaching out to Eydie about contacting local businesses to help sponsor the evening. John and Michelle will help support as needed.

Frank (I win every other time) Urwin won the pot of gold (\$24) ~ Congrats!

Next Meeting will be Tuesday, August 8th, 7:30 AM @ Romers.