

Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce
General Membership Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2014
12:00 noon, Village Hall

Attendees: Carol Britton, Karl Racenis, Amanda Ensign, Elizabeth Beaudoin, Rose Cousino, Karin Asplund, Sue Knasiak, Kevin Sterling, Maureen Salazar, Shelley Hehr, Janet Larson, Ron King, Karen Berg, Jeff Wallace, Jim Pruitt, Terry Ensign, Rick Taepke.

Meeting called to order at 12:00 pm, introductions.

Agenda: Add Old Business C., and New Business F. for Ray Berg. Motion by Sue Knasiak to approve the amended agenda, support by Terry Ensign. Approved.

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve the January Minutes by Sue Knasiak, support by Carol Britton. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: No Treasurer's Report.

Program: There was no program for this meeting.

Reports from Standing Committees:

Manchester Village: Jeff Wallace- There was an open house about the new plans along the River Raisin with a report going to the Village Council soon. There will be paving in town this summer.

Membership: Ray- Renewal applications are going out with the ability to assign a business category to our memberships. New Premier Member is David Cook, Global Environmental Consulting, LLC. Phone 517-456-6881. Email gec223@earthlink.net

Old Business:

Moving the Chamber Display: Discussion about moving the display to the Village Office/Library area. The contents of the display need updating. Sue and Carol volunteered to help with the updating. Rose will be checking with James Miller.

Big 400: Ray- Maple Festival is set for March 8th with pancake breakfast at McLennan's along with activities in other towns.

Downtown Vacant Properties: Ray- The DDA will be promoting the vacant properties by making a portfolio of each one so that potential renters can get information in one place. The information will be posted on the Chamber website. Jeff suggested also posting to regional sites.

Manchester Wellness Coalition: Ray- The 3 year plan needs public input. Comments will be at the next Chamber meeting.

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“Welcome to Manchester” Brochure: Ray- It is being updated for 2014. The display locations may be changed from MDOT sites to local sites.

IRS Filings: Ray- The Chamber now has a new tax ID number and our E-Postcards have been filed for 2013.

Kirk Park Update: Ray- The amount raised so far is about \$94,000. Brochures are around town.

New Business:

Chamber Cell Phone Update: Kevin- The Chamber cell phone is many years old and not functioning properly anymore. We can upgrade to a new smart phone and use a \$45 per month service. We also would like the ability to process credit cards through the phone using Square-Up. Motion by Janet to get a new smart phone with the \$45 per month plan and the Square-Up add-on. Support by Ray. Approved.

Business Expo Planning: Ray- A flyer will be going out in Mid-March.

Golf Outing: Kevin and Ron- The event will be back at The Hills course this year with a lower cost to the Chamber and to CRC than last year. Volunteers are needed to help with the event.

Washtenaw Council of Chambers Meeting in Manchester: Janet- The guest will be Marilyn Crowley of the Michigan Economic Development.

Manchester Street Festival: Karin- Karin attended a class on the new gaming forms needed to use to get the license for the Duck Race. There is a fee of \$50 to apply. Also there are new accountability forms for anyone that collects money. Karl suggested that there be a single place where documents related to all Chamber events are stored.

Manchester Area Wellness Coalition: Ray- There will be a feasibility study for the Manchester area to determine if a retirement community is needed here. The results will be available in 3 to 4 months. The UMRC is financing the study.

General Announcements: CRC is having an Affordable Care Act presentation, a time for free tax help on March 1 and heat bill assistance is available. Karin- They are looking for host families for foreign exchange students.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm.