

**Williamson Chamber of Commerce
Membership Meeting
Town Hall Complex Conference Room
April 22, 2015
Approved June 24, 2014**

PRESENT

Officers: President Lorraine Lewis, Vice President James Hoffman
Directors: Cynthia Baran, Sarah Jacobs, Elisa Knataitis
Member: Perry Howland

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

President Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:59 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Lewis led all in attendance in reciting the pledge of allegiance

MAIL/COMMUNICATIONS:

Wayne County Fair sent Fair Apprentice application which was e-blasted out.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Reviewed, corrections made 3/26 & 3/28. Motion made by V.P. Hoffman, seconded Director Knataitis. Accepted the 3/25/2015 minutes with revisions.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

GiftChecks and Daily Key Bank accounts reconciled with QuickBooks. Motion to accept financials as shown made by V.P. Hoffman, seconded by Director Knataitis. Accepted.

President Lewis presented a financial overview of the Award Dinner. A mistake was caught on the invoice from Wayne Tech Culinary Arts. President Lewis called them and a new invoice will be issued.

An overview of the Veteran's Dinner financials, Milestone and Growing With Us purchased items, and ribbon cutting supplies was reviewed. We still need an invoice from The Candy Kitchen for the Veteran's Dinner.

GINNA TOUR:

Scheduled for Thursday, 4/23/15. Members will meet at 5:00 PM.

COMPLIMENTARY MEMBERSHIP PROPOSAL DRAFT:

Review of the draft policy statement done 3/3/2015 and presented by Secretary Jackie Walker. Very thorough, nicely written. Motion made to accept as written by Director Knataitis, seconded by Director Jacobs. Accepted.

Suggestion/nomination for 2016 Complimentary Membership are Photographic Service and Cole's Financial for the free services that they give to the Chamber.

ONTARIO CHAMBER BUSINESS PROMOTION AWARD:

Reviewed template. Statement sent by Secretary Walker via email that the Chamber already provides free advertising for all our business members by printing the Chamber Business Directory twice each year.

Discussion between attending Officers and Directors it was agreed that we would call this a Chamber Member Business Enhancement Award, given twice a year (March and September) and can be used for advertising or business enhancement, ie: signage upgrade, office equipment, etc. Discussion was tabled until the May meeting. President Lewis will write up a draft based on this concept.

AWARD DINNER:

Attendance was down and the Chamber actually lost money this year. We will re-evaluate this event and see if we can cut costs for next year. Suggestions were made to change locations (while still having the culinary students cater this event); possibly doing desserts and a wine tasting instead of a full dinner. Further discussions to follow. No formal decision made at this time.

GROWING WITH US RECOGNITION

President Lewis showed an example of the new business award that the Chamber is giving to new businesses coming into the community. We have given one to Back to Health Chiropractic and Wilbert's U-Pull It.

CHAMBER YEARLY PROJECT:

The huge snow piles that were present this winter caused us to rethink the signage project for the corners of Route 21 and Route 104. Project is on hold for this year.

A suggestion was made to enhance the pocket park on Main Street near King's. Improvements discussed: purchase new bench, put down pavers, add new plantings, etc. This would make the pocket park more eye appealing similar to the Fireman's mural pocket park. President Lewis will get quotes from landscapers and suggestion was made to dedicate this park in memory of Amanda Orr.

MILESTONE AWARD:

President Mason initiated a discussion on giving a Milestone Award to Orbaker's Drive-In. The Orbakers do so much for the community through donations. Orbaker's has been in the community for 83 years with the O'Hara's owning it since the 1970's. President Lewis will order an upscale award to present to them and provide photo for newspaper. All agreed.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Cam's Pizza has closed. Losing Chris Allen is a blow to the community. He was very involved.

Gallo's is for sale.

Helluva Good Cheese factory and country store will be closing permanently.

Learning Fair is at the Middle School this weekend on Saturday, April 25. President Lewis will be selling pizza, drinks and cookies as a fundraiser for the Chamber.

NEWS TO SHARE:

Vice President Hoffman - Ribbon cutting for the solar project will be 5/15 at 11:00.

Main Street Clean sweep is scheduled for 5/9/15.

Director Baran was appointed as an agent for Allstate Insurance Co. and formed an alliance with Mass Mutual Insurance Company for Life, Long Term care and financial planning.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:12 PM

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

Director Cynthia Baran

April 22, 2015

Reviewed by President Lorraine Lewis

April 23, 2015