



MEETING MINUTES | January 24, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Steve Wallace, President, at 6:09 at Trenton House.

PRESENT: President Steve Wallace, Treasurer Dennis Herzig, Secretary Linda Loepker, Michael Monken, Linda and Tom Peppenhorst, Becky Thole, Victoria Zahn, John Marquart, and Mayor Andy Weh.

Guests: Aaron Puchbauer from HSHS Hospital and Paolo Guazzini.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Joyce Emig motioned to approve the November Secretary's report; seconded by Michael Monken.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dennis Herzig presented the treasurer's report for the period ending December 31, 2022. Herzig's report reflected the following balances:

Community Bank.....	\$47,706.39	General Fund
Scott Credit Union.....	\$7,557.67	Trenton Dollars
Scott Credit Union.....	<u>3,667.82</u>	Share Account
TOTAL	<u>\$58,931.88</u>	

CORRESPONDENCE: No correspondence was received.

CITY NEWS: Mayor Andy Weh congratulated John Marquart on his retirement. John's last day with the City of Trenton will be January 31, 2023. The city is looking for a replacement. John is responsible for spearheading several improvements for the city, including securing a \$375,000 grant for park improvements. The Chamber wishes John the best and appreciates the knowledge he has shared with us.

ELECTION:

1. President Wallace presented the nomination slate as follows:
 - a. President: Victoria Zahn
 - b. Vice President/Secretary: Linda Loepker
 - c. Treasurer: Dennis Herzig
 - d. Board of Directors: Diane Mannhard, Linda Peppenhorst, Steve Wallace, Mike Monken, and Stacy Billhartz
2. Mayor Andy Weh motioned to accept the nomination. Seconded by Becky Thole. All agreed.
3. Steve Wallace then handed the meeting over to new president Victoria Zahn. Zahn introduced herself and thanked the members for their votes.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: Scholarship information has been sent to the local high schools. Information will be shared through the newspapers and social media. Deadline for applications is March 31, 2023. Volunteers are needed to form the selection committee, which will be done at the February meeting.

FEBRUARY BREAKFAST: Networking event scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 7, at Hank's Bowl in Trenton. Angie Zahn is the guest speaker. A breakfast buffet will be served compliments of the Chamber. Please RSVP by Feb. 3 to Linda at LindaR@DeienChevrolet.com, or find the link on our website.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

1. BBQ
 - a. Steve Wallace will be coordinating the May 6 BBQ.
 - b. Volunteers are needed – please reach out to Steve at 618.224-9258 or Linda at 618.444.3031.
2. Golf Tournament
 - a. Linda Peppenhorst will be coordinating the June 11 golf tournament, which will be held at Okawville.
 - b. Volunteers are needed the day of the event.
3. TrentonFest Parade
 - a. TrentonFest will be held Aug. 18 and 19; parade on the 19th.
 - b. John Marquart mentioned there may be changes to the route this year.
 - c. Carnival is the same as last year.
 - d. Linda Peppenhorst mentioned adding the Shriners; Mayor Weh said they are on the list to be contacted.
4. Halloween
 - a. Becky Thole coordinated a very successful event.
 - b. Thank you to Mayor Weh for coordinating the crossing guards.
 - c. More discussion and ideas needed to keep people walking the route the correct way instead of in reverse.
5. Spirit of Christmas
 - a. Steve Wallace said the event went well; the middle school choir performance was a pleasant addition.
 - b. Consider shortening the length of the event for 2023.
6. Trenton \$ Program
 - a. Packets sold out fast – few people purchased multiple packets.
 - b. Short discussion on the subject included instead of buying \$50 and getting \$25 free, change to buy \$100 and get \$25 free.
 - c. Is the program bringing in new customers, or are residents using them to buy services they would purchase anyway?

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA

1. Michael Monken and Linda Loepker have access to the Chamber's Facebook page.
 - a. Michael will be reviewing past engagement.
 - b. Moving forward, the page will be utilized to better serve members and the community.
2. Newsletter is now being sent using MailChimp and achieving 50-60% open rates.
3. Website: keep the member directory up to date.

FUNDRAISING

1. Mike Monken is working on using our website to host an online auction.
2. Becky Thole's Poker Run is still a possibility.
3. Linda Loepker to prepare a proposal for a raffle to launch at the breakfast on Feb. 7.

DUES: The group agreed to leave dues at \$25 for 2023 with a possible increase for 2024.

FEBRUARY MEETING: February business meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 28, at 6 p.m. Deien Chevrolet will be hosting, and Press Coffee & Tea will provide refreshments and appetizers.